

WE'RE ALL **CHEAPSKATES** NOW Even the royals can't resist a bargain



BACK IN THE FRAME ... and still pulling the birds

COMPUTER **GAMES** ... and the wacky minds behind them NETWORK, with pages of jobs



Newspaper of the Year for photographs

Second book on China is blocked

By Rob Brown and Steve Crawshaw

HARPERCOLLINS - already beset by an authors' revolt after dumping a book by Chris Patten - faces further turmoil after putting on ice a second book which contains criticisms of the Chinese regime.

Blocking of the book is fresh evidence that Rupert Murdoch, whose News Corporation owns Harper-Collins, will not allow anything to be published which harms his commercial interests in China.

The book under threat marks the 40th anniversary of the human rights pressure group Amnesty International. The synopsis includes a chapter on Peking's deplorable human rights record to be written by the Chinese dissident Wei Jingsheng.

Mr Wei, 47, is the leading voice of spent 16 years behind bars between his arrest in 1979 and his expulsion from As China's leading dissident, he is even China last year, after writing an article which criticised the Chinese leader. the late Deng Xiaoping.

Mr Wei, who now lives in the United States, has been scathing about the West's failure to speak out more loudly on human rights. In London in January, he told the Independent: "Because of business they want to keep a distance from me. I think it's a pity." His chapter had started to unnerve HarperCollins's senior editorial director in London, Richard Johnson, who had previously been enthusiastic about the proposal from a freelance journalist, Jonathan Power.

The Independent has learned that Mr Johnson sought guidance vesterday from HarperCollins's chairman and publisher Eddie Bell, and was instructed not to offer any advance to Mr Power until Mr Murdoch has clarified his position on the Communist regime in Peking.

Mr Power, who is based in Oxford. has already written a book marking the 30th anniversary of Amnesty International. "Nobody inside the show [HarperCollins] is in any doubt about what this whole thing is about," he said

yesterday. "I'm surprised he [Mr Murdoch] even allowed Chris Patten's book to be commissioned. It was presumably a sin of omission by someone in the HarperCollins's chain of com-

If his book is also dumped, Mr Power won't be disappointed. He has been thinking of withdrawing his synopsis in solidarity with those leading HarperCollins authors who have revolted in protest against the way Mr Patten has been treated. "I only went to HarperCollins because it is a very big publishing firm which has the marketing might and distribution network to reach the 300,000 Amnesty members in America," he explained, adding: "To effectively kill a book [Chris Patten's East and West] which, by all accounts, is very good is kow-towing to the Chinese authorities in the most crude and elemental level."

. If that is what he is about, Rupert former electrician at Peking zoo, he stop to plans by Mr Power to include a chapter in his book by Wei Jingsheng. more of a thorn in the flesh of the Communist regime in Peking than the

former Hong Kong governor. Stuart Proffitt, the former senior editor at HarperCollins whose departure from the company last week originally sparked the Murdoch controversy. last night declined to comment on the latest developments. "I am legally constrained from commenting on this," he said. However, he confirmed he was taking HarperCollins to an industrial tribunal and said he expected the hearing to start within the next

three to six months. Mr Wei was expelled from his homeland in December after serving 18 years in a succession of prisons and forced labour camps, where he was repeatedly tortured and confined in freezing cells. Since his exile began three months ago, he has visited Mr Patten in London. He also had a brief meeting with Derek Fatchett, the junior minister at the Foreign Office who handles Chinese affairs. He had hoped to meet with the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, but the minister "had full appointment book".

Sky snubbed, page 4

The Full Monty's haves and have nots ...



The loser: Steve Huison (left) in a scene from The Full Monty with Robert Carlyle Photograph; Nicola Kurtz

Star earned only £13,000 from £50m blockbuster

By Andrew Buncombe

OH HOW life laughs at us. It's all very well to star in the biggest British boxoffice hit of all time, but it's apparently still very important to read the small

Robert Carlyle, the actor who played the leader of the strippers in the record-breaking film The Full Monty, earned about£1.8m last year - making him the seventh highest earning British actor. Meanwhile, his fellow "stripper" Steve Huison received only £13,500 for getting his kit off and grows his own vegetables on a Yorkshire allotment to

Huison, who played loser Lomper in the hit comedy, said yesterday at the

launch of the video of the film, that all we had - £1.500 a week it works filmooers assumed the stars had made a fortune out of the movie. While it had taken almost £50m in the United Kingdom alone, Huison said he had re-

ceived only £13,500. Yesterday he said his latest project

was "the allotment". "That's not a film, it's a piece of land. It's that time of the year you've got to break up the soil and get your potatoes in.

"It's not about gardening it's about growing your own veg and saving money, you know. I'd be a fool if I didn't try to save money.

"Let me get it right - we haven't got a fortune out of it. We got the basic Equity weekly rate for it and that was he was working.

out at for nine weeks."

He said he had heard rumours about bonus payments following the massive success of the film, but so far he had seen no more cash.

"I don't believe anything until I see it in my hand," he said.

However, in the best of dramatic tradition, Huison, who lives in Shipley, West Yorkshire, said he was not bitter. "Tve had a good time over the past six months, I've gone on a lot of free trips and I've met a lot of interesting

Huison said he was hoping to go to Los Angeles for Oscars night on 23 March but it would depend on whether

her mother to help raise royal princes By Kate Watson-Smyth

Diana wanted

THE original will ran to only six pages and was signed simply 'Diana" in her familiar rounded hand. The amended version, drawn up after her death, runs to 35 pages and - devoid of signatures - seems a curiously impersonal document.

The Princess left a net fortune of almost £13m after death duties of more than £8.5m were paid, according to the will, which was published yesterday.

Her sons, Princes William and Harry, inherit the bulk of her estate - valued at £21,468,352 before death duties -which is to be held in trust until they are 25.

Other beneficiaries, who were not in the original will, include her butler, Paul Burrell, whom the Princess referred to as "my rock" and who receives £50,000, while her 17 godchildren will each receive an object or painting from her personal belongings. Martyn Gowar, senior partner of Lawrence Graham, the lawyers acting for the executors of the Princess's estate, said: "They are personal gifts, chosen by the executors in and would therefore be of value to her godchildren."

The will, written in June 1993 as the relationship between Charles and Diana turned decidedly sour, also insists that her nother, Frances Shand Kydd,be consulted over the "education and welfare" of the two princes.



It is the first time a royal will has been made public and its contents were revealed at the request of her family. Until her death, only the full value of an estate belonging to a member of the Royal Family was revealed. All details of personal bequests and beneficiaries remained private. Mr Gowar said: "It was the decision of the family that the will should be made public. They felt it would be anpropriate in view of the intense public interest surrounding the Princess." Diana's estate comprised stocks and shares, jewellery, cash - mainly from her the knowledge that they had £17m divorce settlement -Kensington Palace, her London

> Details of the original will, drawn up in June 1993 following her separation from Prince Charles, were changed by a variation order granted through the courts on 19 December last year. Godchildren's gifts, page 3

Jail for drug granny of Tunbridge Wells

A GRANDMOTHER who ran a multi-million-pound drugs empire that stretched across southern England was jailed for 15 years yesterday.

Evelyn Fleckney, a selfstyled drugs baroness, operatdher trade in ecstasy, cocaine and cannabis from a four-bedroomed house in Tunbridge wells, Kent.

She described herself as the chairman of the board" and hace boasted: "There are not many drug dealers like me. Go ad find another hird that can t what I get."

The South East Regional

Crime Squad agreed. A spokesvoman said: "She was certainly the first drugs baroness to be convicted in our area and is possibly the first in the country."

Southwark Crown Court in London heard that to minimise the risk of detection Fleckney, 41, never handled the drugs herself, always ensured they were stashed in "isolated" country hideaways and dealt with her minions with a "rod of iron". Police believe she learnt her trade from big league underworld

Before her arrest, police had watched her for moths, and her every word was recorded.



Evelyn Fleckney: Ruled her empire with 'a rod of iron'

dren, was convicted of conspiracy to supply ecstasy, cocaine and cannabis.

Her former boyfriend, James Smith, 32, also of Tunbridge Wells, was found guilty of conspiring to supply ecstasy and cannabis and possessing amphetamine sulphate with intent to supply. He was jailed for

Fayed arrested in safety-box inquiry

By Ian Burrell

MOHAMED Al-Fayed was arrested yesterday over allegations by his great rival Tiny Rowland that the Harrods owner tampered with his safe deposit box at the Knightsbridge store.

after he went voluntarily to a London police station, was released on police bail after being questioned over allegations of theft of documents, tapes and gems and criminal damage to

Mr Fayed, who was arrested tions scandal.

The Harrods owner, who was accompanied by his solicitors, denies the allegations and was said to want to bring the

matter to a "speedy conclusion". The allegations first emerged last October when former trade minister Neil Hamilton was giving evidence to the Commons Standards and

Privileges committee in the aftermath of the cash-for-ques-Mr Hamilton alleged that when Mr Fayed discovered that his business rival owned a Har-

rods deposit box he became "excited" and hatched a plan to find out what was inside. Mr Hamilton claimed that Mr Rowland's documents were copied and a locksmith was paid off with white envelopes

stuffed with £50 notes.

Glasgow vice terror

Today's news

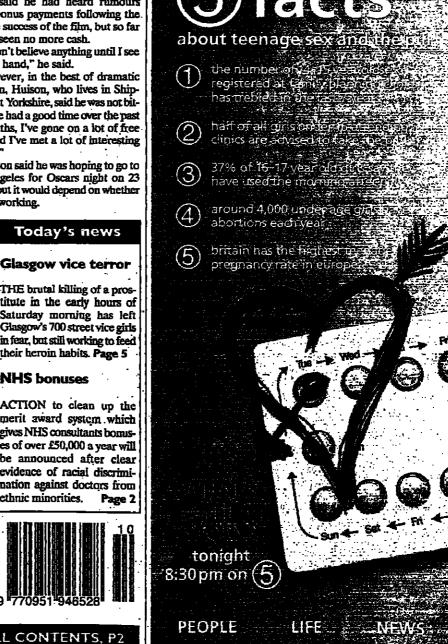
THE brutal killing of a prostitute in the early hours of Saturday morning has left Glasgow's 700 street vice girls

their heroin habits. Page 5

NHS bonuses

ACTION to clean up the merit award system which gives NHS consultants bomuses of over £50,000 a year will e announced after clear evidence of racial discrimination against doctors from ethnic minorities.





INSIDE GUIDE: WEATHER, P2 • CROSSWORDS, P28 AND EYE P10 • TODAY'S TELEVISION, EYE P12 • FULL CONTENTS, P2

Girls' boxing match axed

A BOXING match between two 13-year-old girls was understood last night to have been called off. The bout was due to take place tonight at Valentino's nightchib in Stokeon-Trent, Staffs.

Amateur Boxing Association spokesman David Prior said: "At this moment I understand the bout is off. I cannot confirm the reasons for this at this stage."

This is the second time the match - between Andrea Prime from Leicester and Emma Brammer from Stoke - has been postponed amid adverse publicity.

No new CJD variant cases

NO NEW cases of "new variant" Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (v-CJD), also called "human BSE", have been detected by the Government's monitoring unit in Edinburgh. according to figures published yesterday. The monthly report from the CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh reveals that last year a total of 10 people died from the disease, reckoned to be caused by eating BSE-infected food. That is the same number as in 1996.

Homes protest

MORE than 30 activists occupied the London headquarters of the House **Builders' Federation yesterday** calling for an end to housebuilding on greenfield sites.

The activists, who are members of Action for Social Housing, want a switch in emphasis to building homes for low-income groups in urban areas, and pledged more direct action against major UK housebuilding firms.

Too few takers

ONLY half the people who need influenza vaccinations are actually getting them, doctors warned yesterday.

The claim, by the Association for Influenza Monitoring and Surveillance, comes amid worries about a major outbreak of the common illness, which kills up to 4,000 people in Britain each year.

Show delayed

THE start of the new Father Ted comedy series was put back a week by Channel 4 chiefs last night after the sudden death of its star Dermot Morgan, 45. He collapsed at his London home on Saturday as he celebrated the end of filming with family and friends.

Bullet girl saved by **UK** flees new peril

An orphan flown to Britain for treatment after a bullet lodged in her head was in danger again yesterday as she fled fighting in her home town in Sierra Leone.

Tenneh Cole, now eight, is

one of 60 children who fled a

British-run orphanage as troops from the recently deposed junta went on the rampage. She was flown to Britain in 1996 after an appeal raised money for an operation to remove the stray AK-47 bullet lodged behind her right eye. It was a success and she returned to Sierra Leone, where she was cared for in the Hope and Homes for Children orphanage in Makeni, 130 miles from the capital, Freetown. The Nigerian-led Ecomog force ousted Lieutenant-Colonel Johnny Paul Koroma's junta last month but has not liberated Makeni. Troops supporting the military regime, which deposed elected President Ahmed Teian Kabbah in May. have run amok in the town.



New ordeal: Tenneh Cole, treated successfully in Britain after being hit by a stray bullet, is now on the run in Sierra Leone from rampaging troops

Clean-up for NHS bonus system

By Colin Brown and Jeremy Laurance

Action to clean up the merit award system which gives highranking NHS consultants commitment to the NHS. bonuses of over £50,000 a year will be announced today by the Health Minister, Alan Milburn, after evidence of racial discrimination against doctors from ethnic minorities. Ministers believe the system has become an "old-boys' network".

Those who receive the high-Lord McColl, a Tory spokesman are doing too little.

in the Lords on the NHS. Critpeer review among consultants are for academic merit but they should be reformed to reflect Consultants, especially sur-

geons, hold the key to cutting waiting lists and ministers are known to be-unhappy with arrangements for rewarding them. The cross-government comprehensive spending review is understood to be focussing on consultant workload est awards, of £53,645, include because of concern that some

practices and other commitments which take them away from the NHS.

The latest awards, to be announced today, show for the of those receiving the bonuses. The figures reveal that 13.9 from ethnic minorities but only 6.2 per cent hold an award. Mr Milburn will say this is "unacceptable" and will welcome ac- women consultants gaining tion being taken by the Advisory awards, but the attack on the Committee on Distinction failure properly to reward mem- by paying NHS consultants to system.

ics say the awards given by awards have thriving private bers of the ethnic minorities are be the lever for more reforms system was geared to those to be appointed to the region- of a system many believe is dis- working in the NHS rather al committees which make the credited. Sam Everington, a forfor consultants; there will be member of the BMA council, grounds of ment but ... they are better ethnic monitoring of said the figures confirmed his first time an ethnic breakdown nominations for award-hold- own survey showing racial dis- be seen- as a measure of the ers; and the ACDA is promising to work more closely with per cent of NHS consultants are the Commission for Racial Equality. Earlier protests about mittee and it is done by a nod sex discrimination led to a slight increase in the number of by 'taking soundings'."

crimination in the awards, "It is and a wink. They say it is done

Dr Everington, a GP, said

Many top consultants with Awards on three fronts: mem- bers of ethnic minorities could carry out more operations, if the than private practice. The recommendations for bonuses mer Labour adviser and a awards are given "solely on not intended - nor should they quality of treatment afforded to an old-boy network. You make individual patients." This curifriends with those on the com- ous statement is intended to prevent their being used to construct league tables of the best doctors. Ministerial sources

stressed last night that Mr Milthe waiting list could be reduced burn is not seeking to scrap the

Search for gold in Devon hills

A COMPANY hoping to start England's first commercial gold mine will resume exploratory drilling today at a secret location. it was announced yesterday.

Five 100-metre-deep holes will be sunk by Crediton Minerals in the mid Devon countryside at 150-metre intervals from the original borehole drilled last August.

The drilling will take place over a three-week period after initial assay results from the first hole which showed "four distinct horizons of gold enrichment within the core". The latest cores will be assayed in Ireland and Canada.

"Following intense mineralogical and chemical follow up of the gold occurrence in the first bore hole, Crediton is satisfied that it is fully justified on continuing the exploration to confirm the presence of gold over a wider area," said a spokesman for the company.

While the drilling goes on, other exploration work will be carried out at a number of other sites in the exploration licence

Grains of gold were discovered during last summer's £200,000 test drilling programme in a 45 kilometre-long, 12 kilometre-wide band of agricultural land called the Crediton Trough.

It could be two or three years from the original drilling before the company could be certain it had an "economic ore body".

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Judge in sexual harassment case stands down

By Kathy Marks

pending the result of a possible recorders. appeal against the ruling.

Christopher Sutton-Mata Crown Court recorder, has not agreed not to sit on the bench yet stated whether he intends to until the matter is resolved.

lodge an appeal. If he fails to do SO WILLIN 21 DAYS OF IAST WEEK'S

In the meantime, according to the Lord Chancellor's detocks, 46, a barrister who sits as partment yesterday, he has

Mr Sutton-Mattocks, who rassment against a barrister bench, he remains free to practime post requires him to sit for A PART-TIME judge who was hearing, or if the result goes 1996, was fined £500 by a Bar such complaints was introduced Council, the professional body though most recorders spend found to have sexually harassed against him, his name will be Council disciplinary tribunal for by the Bar. a pupil barrister has voluntari- struck off the list of barristers persistently harassing Claire Kaly stood down from the bench appointed to sit as part-time vanaugh, 25, a pupil at his chamfemale pupil is also thought to ful" behaviour towards the

have complained about him. Ms Kavanaugh is believed to pervise. be the first pupil to make a for-

SINCE A NEW SYSTEM TO DEAL WILL In 1995, a Bar Council work-

pupils whose training they su-

mal allegation of sexual ha- Sutton-Mattocks career on the

the power to disbar or suspend ing party concluded that some barristers who breach its discibers in central London. Another barristers indulge in "disgrace- plinary code. But a spokes- married and practises mainly as

case, the £500 fine would stand Whatever happens to Mr as the penalty. said it was belied ton-Mattocks' career on the Mr Sutton-Mattocks' part-might be abroad.

for England and Wales, has much more time than that on the bench. Mr Sutton-Mattocks, who is

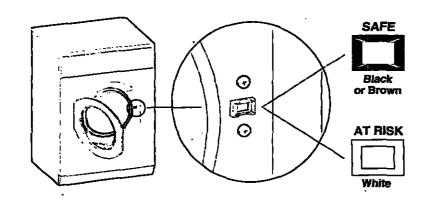
woman said yesterday that if the a criminal barrister, was not appeal was unsuccessful in this available for comment at his chambers yesterday. His clerk said it was believed that he

Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for

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Washing Machines and Washer Dryers.



On some Ariston and Indesit Washing Machines and Washer Dryers a weakness has been identified which may enable the door to be opened when the appliance is in operation.

The only appliances that may be affected have a white plastic surround to the door lock mechanism. The door lock mechanism is situated on the right hand side of the door opening as shown above. Please check your machine.

If the plastic surround is either **BLACK OR BROWN** you need take **NO FURTHER ACTION**, If your appliance has a WHITE door lock surround, FILL IN THE TEAR OFF SLIP BELOW, put in an envelope, and post it to us at the address shown.

Alternatively, contact freephone 0800 9807160 between 8.00am and 8.00pm Monday to Friday. YOU CAN CONTINUE TO USE YOUR APPLIANCE AS LONG AS YOU DO NOT TRY TO

WE ADVISE THAT YOU SHOULD TAKE EXTRA CARE WHEN CHILDREN ARE NEAR THE APPLIANCE.

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OPEN THE DOOR WHEN THE MACHINE IS TURNED ON.

Please return this slip to: Careline, FREEPOST (SL2468) Genards Cross, Buckinghamshire, SL9 9HE

WEATHER

Today's forecast England and Wales will be mild but windy and wet, with some heavy rain. There will be gales along the English Channel. Many southern and eastern parts of Britain will remain duil with rain on and off all day, but brighter more showery weather is expected to spread from the north-west this attenuor. Scotland and Morthern heland will be colder with rain turning more showery as survey spells break though, but the let north

will keep steadler rain, preceded by sleet or snow Outlook for the next few days Ramover southern England and Wales early on Wednesday will be heavy for a while but it will clear to leave surshine everywhere in the alternoon. It will be showery, however, with showers most fequent in the north and west. Over Scotland Thusday will be cold everywhere, with significant showfall over Scotland, and wintry showers quite for south. Most areas will be wet on Friday but northern Scotland will have heavy snow.

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Agr B 6 43°
Belfast B 5 41
Birminghan C 9 48
Blackpan S 8 8 46°
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British Isles weather moreon water

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Out and about with AA Roadwarch Cal 0336 481777 for the latest local and material balls: mans. Source The Automobile Association Calls charged at

INDEPENDENT Weatherline Source, The Med Office. Calls charged at 50p per min at all times (inc VAT)

High tides TH MA 04:51 02:10 10:27 09:26 Liverpool Avonmouth Hull (Albert Dock) 03:35 02:33 Lighting-up times

Birmingham 17.50.3p...06.48 17.54. lb ... 06.50 Sun rises 06.42 17.55. lb . 07.01 Sun rises 17.44 17.44. lb ... 06.40 Moon rises 09 19 17.50. lb ... 06.50 Fast Quarter March 5

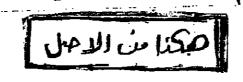
Atlantic chart, noon today

HARTSTON WEATHER WISE

THE EIGHTH International Weather Forecasters' festival will take place at the end of this week in Issy-les-Moulineaux, France, where more than 100 television stations will compete for the Best Weather Report Trophy, With sessions devoted to Communications Technologies, the Greenhouse Effect, El Niño, the Internet, and many other weather-related topics, they have a crowded programme, but I hope they will also find room to expand the competitive element.

Let's have a Worst Weather Report, or Most Devastating Unpredicted Hurricane Trophy to go with the other award. Or get delegates to predict the end-of-conference temperature at Issyles-Moulineaux. The one who is most out has to buy a round of drinks for the rest.

The award I would most like to see is the Most Surprising Event Blamed on El Niño Trophy ... And, barring any late entries, the winner is last week's El Niño History and Crisis Conference at the Australian National University, Richard Grove, the convenor of the conference, has been looking back over the past 5,000 years, and has identified traces of El Niño all over the place. The French Revolution? Well, the social conditions were there, he admits, "but if it hadn't been for El Nino kicking in in 1787-88 you might not have had a French revolution at all". It was the crop failures of 1788 that really started it. And without El Niño, the Black Death of the late 1340s would never have spread so fast. Then there's the El Niño-induced Irish potato famine. Enough! You win.



within the products

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To her godchildren: A few sentimental things ByKate Watson-Smyth

THE BULK of the fortune of Diana, Princess of Wales is divided of Wales". equally between her sons but the amended will, made last December, allows for more personal property rights - including copybequests which her family felt she would have wanted.

Chief among these is the £50,000 bequest to her butler, Paul Burrell, and a list of china and ty purposes, or for the benefit of paintings which are to be given to her godchildren.

Martyn Gowar, of Lawrence Graham, the lawyers acting as executors for the Princess's estate, said: "The trustees have decided on the items for each of the children. There are a range of things like pictures, nice pieces of china and some special photographs. They are not really things of monetary value and in the context of a £21m estate they are insignificant. They are purely of sentimental value."

The gross value of the estate was £21,711,485, which, after the become a bestseller, there was payment of unspecified personal taxes, was reduced to £21,468,352. A total of £8,502,330 was paid in inheritance tax and the remaining £12,966,022 will be distributed to the beneficiaries, chiefly the Princes William and Harry.

Until they are 25, the executors will decide how much of the income from their share they should receive and once they are 30 they may ask for the capital. Under the terms of the original will they stood to inherit at 25, provided they survived the Princess for She had come to Somerset House three months.

A discretionary fund has also been set up for the princes and their future families and also for dia interest. "I was here quite by any charities which the trustees chance and decided it was a unique may decide could benefit, which could include the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund. The fund is listed as including "all my wearing apparel," the sum of £100,000 and any money or investments. It operates independently from the rest of the estate.

The new will shows how measures were taken to protect Diana's legacy for her children. A section marked "the Intellectual Property Rights", highlights the most of the others who arrived rights that are, or could be, owned during the morning, had come for by the estate and includes the more prosaic reasons. "I am a procopyright to artistic work, per- bate solicitor and I was curious to formers' rights and trademarks see what her legacy was and who

It also includes "moral rights" relating to her name, reputation, voice, or "any other characteristic or feature of Diana, Princess

The Princess's wedding tress. her wardrobe and intellectual right trademarks and the resulting royalties from the authorised commercial use of her picture or name - are to be used for chari-William, 15, or Harry, 13. It is likely that the wedding dress and some of her designer gowns will go on tral home of Althorp.

The executors of the Princess's will, her mother Frances Shand Kydd, her sister Lady Sarah Mo-Corquodale and the Bishop of London, the Rt Rev Richard Chartres, agreed with John Major, who is acting as legal guardian to the young princes that the will should be made public.

Although widely expected to only a trickle of people at Somerset House yesterday morning. Staff had prepared 200 copies photocopies of the will in anticipation of the demand, but by mid-morning the balk of those had been sold to the media. A spokesman for the probate office said about 300 copies were sold by the end of the day and staff had been busy taking calls from around the world.

The first person to buy a copy of the will was Christine Lansdowne, 72, from Sidney, Australia. to research her family history and after purchasing her copy found herself the object of intense meopportunity to buy a historical document. She was the mother of the future King of England and I shall treasure it," she said.

Mrs Lansdowne said she had been a lifelong royalist, adding: "My mother had pictures of the whole family on the walls all the time and I was married 50 years ago. like the Queen, so I suppose I do feel a bond."

However, Musa Andu, 45, like the beneficiaries were," he said.



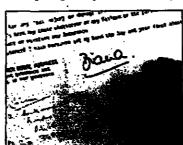
Diana in her wedding dress, which is likely to go on permanent display at Althorp, and (below) the signature to her original will

THE GODCHILDREN

Diana, Princess of Wales, had 17. godchildren, all of whom are provided for in her new will. They are: Lady Ethwina Grosvenor, 16, second child of the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, was the first of Diana's godichildren. The Princess accended the private christening in February 1982, six months after her wedding. She was already expecting Prince William and within two years Lady Edwina was seen as an ideal bride for the future king. The Hon Alexandra Knatchbull, IS, was

the second godchild. The daughter of Lord and Lady Romsey and great granddaughter of the late Earl Mountbatten of Burma. Clare Cazalet, B, daughter of isabel (née Dawnay, the princess's third cousin) and Victor Cazalet, Mr Cazalet's father was the Queen Mother's race horse trainer. Carnilla Straker, 12, daughter of Reuben and Hon Sophie Straker, Sophie Straker was a former flatmate of Diana, and the Princess also accended the couple's wedding three months after her own. Sophie was a guest az the Princess's funeral.

Prince Philippos, II, son of the ex-King Duke of Edinburgh - and Queen Anne-



Leonora Lonsdale, II, daughter of lamie and Laura Lonsdale. Mrs Lonsdale was a lady-in-walting to the Princess, who had accended her wedding. The Lonsdale's IImonth-old son Louis died in 1992 and Diana was a guest at the funeral. Mrs Lonsdale led the Princess's funeral. Jaide Warren, ti, son of John and Lady

Carolyn Warren. Lady Carolyn is the daughter of the Queen's racing manager, the Earl of Camarvon. Lady Mary Wellesley, II, daughter of the Marquess and Marchioness of Douro. The Marquess is the Duke of Wellington's helr.

George Frost, 10, son of the broadcaster Audiey Twiston-Davies, a company director; and

his wife, the Hon Caroline Harbord Harnond, THE BEQUESTS who was a schooliriend of Diana.

both the Prince and Princess of Wales

attended their wedding in 1982. Mrs

Bartholomew was at Diana's funeral.

Michael and Julia Samuel. Julia Samuel

bereaved parents.

Antonia Harrington, six, daughter of

jonathon Harrington.

Daisy Soames, five, daughter of the Hon

Rupert and Camilla Soames. Rupert is the brother of Nicholas Soames, the former

nica Lawson, two, daughter of

attended princess's launch of charity

dedicated to improving support for

Conservative defence minister.

Dominic Lawson and the Hon Rosa.

enjoyed a holiday the month before she

died. Mrs Monckton was at the funeral.

Jack Falkner, 9, son of Col Simon Falkner, The items to be left to the godchilof the Household Carairy, and Isabel Falkner. dren were included as part of a 130-Edward, Lord Downpatrick, nine, son of page valuation catalogue - including the Earl and Countess of St Andrews. The china, ornaments and paintings farl, eldest son of the Duke and Duchess of compiled by Christie's for the execu-Kent, gave up his rights as 17th in line to the throne to marry Sylvana Tomaselli, a Roman tors shortly after the death of the Princess, it will not be released to the Catholic divorcée in 1988. public as it is privately owned by the Jack Bartholomew, eight, son of William and Carolyn Bartholomew. Carolyn was a schoolfriend and flatmate of Diana, and

Some of the objects which form secs will be divided among her godchildren at the behest of the execu-A spokesman for the executors Benjamin Samuel, eight, son of the Hon

said: "They are not really things of monetary value and in the context of a £21 m estate they are insignificant. They are purely of sentimental val-

The gifts, often very briefly described, include: Four pieces of Odenby crockery; an Odenby Coffee service: H Cockerel; Decanter; Carriage Clock Dresden pen way: Shepherd/ess; Watercolour, Herend animals (Herend is a Hungarian porcelain factory that makes model animals that sell at around £30 each); Watercolours; Hunting

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Microsoft bends a little in 'browser' conflict

By Mary Dejevsky in Washington

IN ITS first real concession in what have become known as the "browser wars", the Microsoft computer software company yesterday said it will allow Internet providers to promote non-Microsoft browsers on its Windows program.

It means Microsoft is dronping its requirement that they promote only its own browser. the Internet Explorer.

Microsoft told the European Commission of its move last week but only confirmed it publicly yesterday, the day before the company's chairman, Bill Gates, is to testify before the US Senate Judiciary Com-

A browser provides Internet access; Microsoft's condition that Internet providers promote only Explorer brought accusations that it is seeking to control access to the global information network.

But Microsoft has not addressed the larger question of technology "bundling", the subject of a suit by the US Justice Department, which accuses Microsoft of obliging computermakers to install Microsoft's browser as a condition of installing Windows. It also accuses Microsoft of trying to bind the browser so closely into Windows that computer-makers will have no choice but to take both or neither. This, it says, is a breach of a 1995 undertaking designed to preserve competition.

Some 90 per cent of personal computers sold worldwide come with Windows preinstalled and Microsoft's rivals say it is abusing its market position to squeeze out competitors.

This is the issue that will be considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee today, when Mr Gates can expect a thorough grilling about his business strat-

MP whose star rose above the ridicule

IN THE NEWS ANN WIDDECOMBE

ON THE surface it seems a tale of forgiveness and reconciliation. Michael Howard is keen to broadcast the fact that he considers Ann Widdecombe, the woman who effectively scuppered his Tory leadership hopes, would be a very useful colleague in the Shadow Cabinet, and he would have no objections to her appointment.

So what is it like for Ms Widdecombe to be suddenly embraced by a colleague whom she once described as having "something of the night" about him? A source close to her mused: "I suppose one can cope, as long as there is a plentiful supply

of garlie". Appearances can deceive, in politics perhaps more than any other aspect of life. Mr Howard's offering of the olive branch, say Ms Widdecombe's supporters, has less to do with magnanimity than saving his own face. She has already been sounded out about a post in William Hague's team, and the shadow Foreign Secretary is in no position to object.

It is no longer thought to be a case of. if she will join the Shadow Cabinet, but in what capacity. One of the possible posts could be social services - with the present incumbent lain Duncan-Smith promoted or home affairs, where Brian Mawhinncy has signalled an intention to leave front-

line politics. The source added: "Michael did not really have a choice. There is a lot of support (W Cabinet, and he can hardly object. He one in their ranks who can get under the for Ann Widdecombe being in the Shad-



Ann Widdecombe: Politics is a very long game

is basically retaliating first by being gracious.

they have spoken together recently. If she

gets on the Shadow Cabinet they will ob-

ocritical to say there has been a

of the Tory parliamentary party tries to find

itself a coherent role - the star of the woman

ances on a television series, her novel is

Interestingly, Ms Widdecombe's par-

liamentary efforts have won the approval

of not only Tory MPs, seeing at least some-

nickname "U-boat Widdecombe".

rapprochement".

skin of new Labour, but also of the Labour But he has been very frosty the few times old guard who like her directness and independence - reminding them, perhaps, of the days of opposition and debate before viously work together, but it would be hyp- the arrival of the Millbank thought police.

Ms Widdecombe, MP for Maidstone and Weald, says she finds being on the Oppo-Since the May meltdown - as what is left sition back beaches " liberating". However, she is quick to stress that she has never said she would not want to be in governonce tidiculed as " Doris Karloff" has conment again. A shadow cabinet post would tinued to rise. She makes regular appear- of course be a step in that direction, and with the Toxies likely to be out of office for close to completion, and in the House her at least a decade, there is time enough to attacks on Blairism have carned her a new establish herself in her party's front ranks. "Politics," she says " is a very long game."

Kim Sengupta

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ANN and CHOCOLATES and FLOWERS and SOME-THING OF THE NIGHT

Ms Widdecombe clashed with her boss, Michael Howard over the sacking of the Prisons Director Derek Lewis, She claimed the Home Secretary had misled the House of Commons over the matter. It

was suggested that Mr Lewis had sent Ms Widdecombe chocolates and. flowers, with the suggestion that she had somehow become besotted with the Prisons Director. An angry Ms Widdecombe proved no such gifts had been sent. "Something of the night" was her description of Mr Howard.

ANN'S PROGRESS Ms Widdecombe decided to become a politician at the age of of 14 while at a boarding school at Bath. She entered politics after Oxford she became the villain of the left for her defence of handcuffing expectant mothers at Holloway Jail, and then its hero for savaging Michael

ANN and SEX Ms Widdecombe, a converted Catholic, is against sex before marriage. She is unmarried, and have been unattached apart from a brief courtship at Oxford. She says: " If anyone says ! am not a virgin, I will sue. One can easily do without sex, just as one can do without television".

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THE INDEPENDENT



Keeping the lid on: Alex Hammersley, a PR consultant, with the 1736 Drury-Lowe silver tureen, part of a collection by the renowne ver-maker. Paul de Lamerie which will be auctioned in New York and London. The tureen is expected to fetch £500,000 to £800,000 Photograph: PA

Housing ban on paedophiles 'puts children at risk'

By Glenda Cooper

Social Affairs Correspondent

Local councils should not impose blanket bans on housing Chartered Institute of Housing said in new guidelines released yesterday.

"Hard-line approaches" often do little more than drive child-sex offenders underground, putting children at more risk, the organisation warned.

The institute has produced the first guidelines for housing workers in England and Wales to deal with the highly sensitive issue of convicted paedophiles in the community. The move

follows a series of incidents ry of sex abuse," said the instiacross the country when convicted or suspected paedophiles have been driven from their homes by angry neighbours. convicted paedophiles, the Some councils have used their powers under the Housing Act effectively to exclude most or all sex offenders from housing reg-

> In Middlesbrough, the local authority announced that it would formally exclude sex offenders from estates. In Birmingham, however, a council worker was suspended for allegedly alerting mothers on an estate that a paedophile was moving into the area.

The institute argues against banning pacdophiles, saying such an approach could expose an authority to a legal challenge. Instead it urges local authorities to work with other agencies including the police. social services and probation.

"A hard-line approach may mean the ex-offender becomes homeless or is housed in the private sector and other professionals may find it more difficult to manage their rehabilitation," say the guidelines.

The institute also notes that it is impossible to form a stereotypical definition of a sex offender. Children are more at houses in exactly the same way risk from people they know as does everyone else. If we (two-thirds of victims know can't house them then they are their abusers) and half of more likely to reoffend. abusers were or had been married. "What police are most con-sex offenders are to be housed cerned about is not being able rather than whether or not they to trace someone with a histo-should be housed."

tute's chief executive, Christine Laird. "It's very important to know where sex offenders are located within the community so we can ensure the commu nity is protected."

The document has been officially endorsed by the Local Government Association, which represents nearly 400 housing associations in England and

"What we are interested in is ensuring that a national framework is created to deal with housing sex offenders so it is not left to individual arrangements by police." said Jeanette York, the organisation's housing policy officer. "This is the first step towards addressing regional inconsistencies and maintaining public confidence."

The initiative was also backed by Victim Support, which offers counselling to victims of crime. "We have to welcome what they are doing with regard to rebousing sex offenders," said a spokesperson. "It is an emotive issue and one of concern to vulnerable members of the public, the victims."

John Wadham, of the civil rights group Liberty, added: "Obviously sex offenders need

"The key question is where

£50,000 dilemma over freed killer

Robert Oliver served 10 years of a 15-year sentence after being convicted of the murder of 14-year-old Jason Swift, who was throttled and gang-raped in a flat in east London, writes Glenda Cooper. Since his release he has

en hounded from town to town, with one force having to shoulder a bill of more than £50,000 for keeping him in a cell after he sought refuge, fearing revenge attacks by the public. His case illustrates the de-

bate over whether convicted sex offenders should be able to live in the community and, if so, whether people should be in-

formed. Oliver was released from ber and registered on the naand Manchester. He cut his hair and wore glasses to avoid recognition, but when he arrived in ters to the parents of 27,000 children in the town. He told the Evening Argus: "I am frightened for my life. It feels like a lynch me." As a result, he ended up in the police cell for four months for his own protection. Sussex police estimate it cost the



Robert Oliver: Feared a lynch mob

der lock and key. Sex-offender treatment clinics initially refused to take responsibility for Oliver, although yesterday Sussex Wandsworth prison in Septem- police confirmed that he had moved out of the area and was tional paedophile register. He at a medium-secure forensic has been hounded out of Swin- unit where, although he has his don, London, Dublin, Liverpool own room and en suite bathroom, he is treated under lock and key.

Asked why this clinic had ad-Brighton, social services sent let- mitted Oliver when others had refused, a spokeswoman for the clinic said: "Any patient admitted has to meet specific criteria for admission and Mr mob is out there waiting to get Oliver will have met these criteria." The police said: "He has agreed voluntarily to go to an assessment centre and we are looking for a long-term solution public £50,000 to keep him un- to his situation.

Gulf veterans link cancers to missiles

URANIUM particles released vestigating DU as part of a Gulf War could be responsible for cancers which killed 30 British veterans.

Campaigners believe that microscopic quantities of depleted uranium (DU) may have contributed to a spate of lymphatic cancers which have claimed the lives of UK soldiers who served during the 1991 con-

The artillery shells and bombs used by both the British and US forces in the Gulf were tipped with DU to penetrate heavy armour plating.

Tony Flint, acting chairman of the Gulf Veterans' and Families' Association, said: "Depleted uranium was on these weapons as they exploded with incredible heat and force - who knows what effect it had on those in the area."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence, which is in-

by Allied shelling during the wide-ranging inquiry into the causes of Gulf War illnesses, said there was no evidence so far of the metal being responsible for any abnormal diseases or conditions.

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Prostitutes' killer brings fear to streets of Glasgow Crime Correspondent

THE battered body of 27-yearold Margaret Lafferty lay in a doorway in a narrow cobbled street for about 16 hours before it was noticed.

Known to her friends as Margo, she was the seventh prostitute to be murdered in Glasgow in less than seven

Her brutal killing in the early hours of Saturday morning has left the city's 700 street Brutal death: Prostitute prostitutes in fear. But despite the fact that there is a serial killer or a number of murderers targetting vice girls in Glasgow most street workers feel to feed their heroin habits.

The risks seem enormous. Of the seven killed, one was stabbed 17 times and strangled, third was found naked in some it is taken over by dozens of

Police believe Margaret Lafferty, a drug user, was killed during a "sustained and violent" attack in West Regent Lane at Saturday.



about 2am on Saturday. The dingy single-track road, where shops and offices pile their compelled to continue working rubbish, joins two busy streets and is close to the city's red light district, known as "Anderstone". By day the area is frequented by professionals working in soanother was mutilated and licitors firms, legal practices and has the terror felt among the of any punters. dumped in a car park and a financial institutions. By night

> women selling sex. Margaret's body, which was partly hidden, was found by a rified. Some have stopped passer-by at about 6pm on

Detective Chief Superintendent John Campbell said Ms Lafferty had put up a struggle with her killer. He added: "The person who carried out this at- just don't see any other option." tack may well have been covered in both mud and blood."

As the death toll has risen so city's street walkers. Roseann Coutts, a worker at the city's Base 75 support centre, said: "The women are ter-

working because they were so

workers are drug users and they need the money to fed their habit - most are on heroin. They

Some prostitutes now work in pairs, with one keeping a note of the car registration number

They are also all advised to pick up their clients in view of the city's surveillance cameras so that any potential attacker will be fearful of being identified.

They are warned to always killer.

- for a second man - and to never wear a scarf, as it could be used as a murder weapon.

Strathelyde police vesterday played down speculation of a serial killer saying there was no evidence of a link between any of the previous murders and that of Margaret Lafferty.

Shops and offices in Glasgow city centre have been asked to keep CCTV video footage shot over the weekend which may contain pictures of the

Channel 4 snubs Murdoch for news contract

Media Editor

ITN executives breathed a heavy sigh of relief yesterday when Channel 4 announced that it would be sticking with its news service. They were bracing themselves for major job losses if they had lost the business.

-undertook to supply Channel 4 independent producer. with a balf-hour programme on simply a short bulletin.

for Rupert Murdoch's satellite HarperCollins. "Sky was al- hosted initially by Peter Sissons garded news service."

Channel 4 stressed that the spokesman for the station. Saturday evenings rather than decision to stick with ITN had nothing to do with the current

To retain the contract, the service, BSkyB, which had been ways going to be the junior part-but long synonymous with ancompany - which is also news backing a rival bid by Mentorn, ner and we always had our chorman Jon Snow, has won a supplier to ITV and Channel 5 Barrowclough Carey, a leading own timetable for taking this important decision," said a

ITN has produced Channel 4 The decision not to put the controversy surrounding Mr Britain's fourth terrestrial net-

and accolades for its intelligent and analytic journalism.

Channel 4's chief executive, News since the launch of Michael Jackson, said yesterday. "Channel 4 is standing fourcontract out to tender is a blow Murdoch's publishing house work in 1982. The programme, square behind its highly re-

THE BUS, EVEN IF

It's enough to make you lose interest in your Building Society.

Eva Herzigova modelling a pink wool day dress from Blumarine yesterday in Milan.

collections in a series of shows that end on Saturday Photograph: Paolo Cocco/Reuters

where more than 100 designers have been showing ready-to-wear autumn

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ON THE ROAD FROM ONLY 50p

Bossy' Labour accused of creating criminals

sale of B6 Vitamins.

By Anthony Bevins Pelitical Edition

THE Government was yesterday accused of criminalising culture committee is to inves- ernment? honest citizens with "an endless raft of unnecessary, hossy, nannying, tyrannical rules and regfrom pistol-shooting to on-the-

The Commons outburst from Quentin Davies, an outspoken Conservative back-

ered for Leylandii hedges, and news that the Commons agritigate controversial plans to curb the sale of Vitamin B6.

ulations" dealing with issues came during Commons ques- ulated?" tion time, when he asked Jack rally, if you go much further bencher, coincided with an along this road and reduce the crime and disorder agenda

announcement that planning drink-driving limit and ban fox-permission was being consid- hunting, you will bring the law orously pursuing." into progressive disrepute, not to mention your dreadful gov-

To Tory cheers, he asked: "Isn't it about time this gov-Mr Davies's irate protest erament thought before it reg-

Mr Straw replied: "You Straw, the Home Secretary: know the fox-hunting Bill is a "Do you not realise that, in the Private Member's measure - but tight of yesterday's countryside you also know there is overwhelming public support for the rorism."

During question time, Mr Straw also took the opportunity to accuse some animal rights protesters of being terrorists.

"I believe that some of the actions of the so-called animal rights protesters to be utterly outrageous," he said. "In some cases ... some of the individuals have been convicted of offences which amount to ter-

But the charge that the Gov-

that should be none of its business will be fuelled by a decision prescription. taken by the Commons agri-

culture committee, at a private Richard Caborn, the planning minister, said in a written Commeeting last week, to hold a speedy investigation into government plans to restrict the Under government proposning permission is already als - which will require legislarequired where a fence, wall or tion and which are said to have gate would be over one metre provoked 100,000 protest letters B6 doses of more than 10 milby vehicles, or over two metres ligrams will only be available

thing over 50mgs requiring a some form of government intervention is relation to Ley-As for domestic hedges, landii trees and other high

boundary hedges is necessary." The Prime Minister's official mons reply to Peter Luff, Con-spokesman said yesterday that servative chairman of the legislation on fox-hunting was agriculture committee: "Plan- . not seen as a government priority, if, as expected, Michael Foster's Private Member's legislation is stalled and killed off high and next to a highway used by determined opponents.

His Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill is due to

ernment is meddling in matters from pharmacists, with any. "I am considering whether have the first day of its Commons report stage on Friday.

The No 10 spokesman also said that Mr Blair had not so far given any consideration to the creation of a new government department, which would consolidate responsibility for countryside matters.

He said a decision was not imminent, but as any announcement would be tied in with Mr Blair's first Cabinet reshuffle, there is no need for

Peers impose defeat on student fees

By Anthony Bevins

THE Government was defeated in the Lords last night, when peers carried an amendment to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill, seeking to ensure that poorer students pay no more than half their maintenance costs. Voting was 143 to 102, an Opposition majority of 41.

The vote would restore maintenance grants as recommended by the Dearing report. and last night jubilant Tories who led the defeat said it would be difficult for the Prime Minister to seek to overturn the

"Tony Blair said last week in the Commons that he was implementing the Dearing Committee report. The Lords have taken him at his word. He can't get out of that now," said David Willetts, a front bench Tory spokesman in the Commons.

The vote was forced by Baroness Blatch, a former minister and the Tory education spokesman in the Lords, with crossbench and Liberal Demo- amendment would "run crat support. Labour left wing counter to the fair funding MPs have warned the Govern- arrangements" for higher edument they could also rebel if concessions are not made by proposed. It would require the ministers before the Bill returns taxpayer to bear the full cost of to the Commons.

attempt to overturn the Gov- tually earn the highest salaries. ernment's plan for tuition fees feated by 14, on a vote of 110 the higher education budget to % against the party's amend- would be to impose strict curbs ment. The amendment would on the numbers of students have ensured that students' and that would be unacceptable. £1.000-a-year fees were repaid as a Government grant.

In the vote, which took place peers rebelled against the Gov- two bishops.

Glenamara, the former deputy Labour leader and one-time Secretary of State for Educa-

Introducing the amendment, Lord Tope, the Liberal Democrut sponsor, said there was "widespread concern and opposition throughout the country" to tuition fees. He warned that they were a disincentive to applying to university and the next target could be the sixth

"The time has come to say that student payment of tuition fees is a step too far in principle, in practice and in terms of the dangers that it opens up."

Lord Glenamara said the Government had "taken leave of its senses" and "gone off its rocker" imposing tuition fees.

It had no mandate to do it, and was putting a "roadblock" on the route to further education. The plan was "grotesquely unfair", he protested.

But Baroness Blackstone, the Education Minister, said the cation which the Government higher education, including pay-Earlier, a Liberal Democrat ing for those who would even-

> If the amendment was acea, the only way to control

supported by five Labour rebels - including Lord Glenamara during the detailed report stage 46 Liberal Democrats, 31 debate on Bill, several Labour Tories, 12 crossbenchers and



Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, and Margaret Ewing, MP for Moray, taking a break during the Scottish Grand Committee meeting in Edinburgh yesterday

SNP seeks inquiry into Connery snub

THE Parliamentary Commis- freedom of information withsioner for Standards is to be in the new Scottish Parliament. asked to investigate claims that the former Bond actor Sean more freedom of information, Connery was denied a knighthood because of a donation to the Scottish National Party.

Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, vesterday said that he would be writing to Lord Neill criminated against for giving out of order - leaving Mr Demoney to political parties.

Mr Salmond was speaking Lord Tope's amendment was he had earlier tried to raise the Secretary of State for Scotland,

He said: "Perhaps if there is we could be told if Mr Connery or anyone else has been discriminated against because of their political policies."

However, the committee chairman, John Maxton MP, war free to ignore the question. Later Mr Salmond said: "It

after the Scottish Grand Com- is unprecedented that the chairmittee in Edinburgh, where man of the committee intervened to protect the minister subject with Donald Dewar, the from answering. My question was certainly about freedom of through a question about more information, about publishing ing to go away. They will remain



Sean Connery: Donation

the decision where Sean Connery was discriminated against

These questions are not go-

they reflect on the credibility of the Government and the decision-making processes going on in the Scottish Office."

Mr Salmond said he would

some fire for the leaked proposal to house the Scottish Parliament temporarily in the former headquarters of Strathelyde Regional Council in Glasgow.

Ironically he was being questioned in the building housed the Parliament, the parties.

until they are answered because Old Royal High School, rather than in a new building in Holyrood.

Mr. Dewar accused the Nationalists of "blind prejudice" against Glasgow, but added be writing to Lord Neill, as he that it was still a contest between was unable to table Parlia- three sites. He said: "I was mentary questions on the sub- astonished by the Nationalists' ject in the House of Commons. reactions to the suggestion that gow. I don't believe any sensible person would see it as an insult to Glasgow. I can only think that it comes from a view based on blind prejudice."

He added that as soon as the Glasgow option was raised be which many felt should have had informed the opposition

NHS in bid to cut £70m fraud

By Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

MINISTERS will unveil a new NHS prescription form tomorrow to combat fraud, as the Government weathers the storm over its decision to increase prescription charges by 15p to a total £5.80 per item.

Welfare
Infind:
White for
Wethird

The rise, revealed exclusively in yesterday's Independent, led to a backlash from patients' groups, health union leaders and the Liberal Democrats, and upset the Government's plans for spin-doctoring to defend the increase as a real-terms cut.

The new forms will contain a light-sensitive strip as an antifraud device in an attempt to stop an estimated £70m a year trade in forged prescriptions.

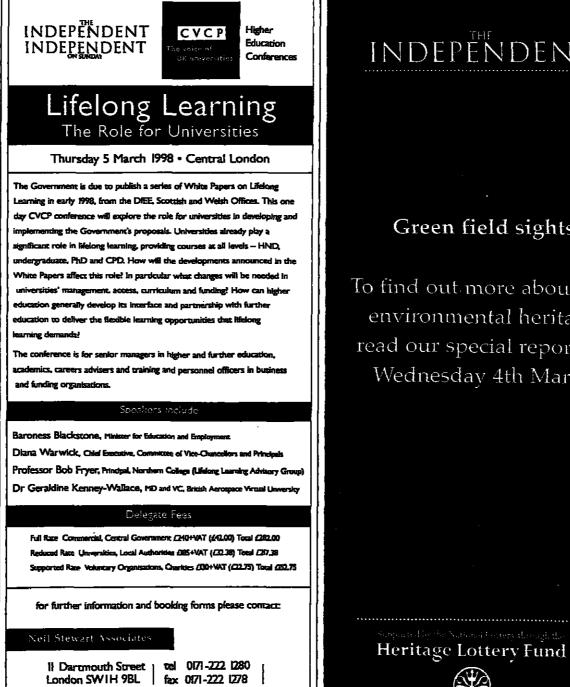
Pharmacists are to be offered rewards for spotting the forgeries, but the fraud-busting measures will increase criticism that the prescription charge is too high and encourage other forms of dodging.

The Prime Minister's official spokesman said the 2.7 per cent rise was less than inflation. "For the first time, the charge has fallen against inflation." He confirmed that ministers were actively looking at the possibility of restoring free eye-tests and free dental check-ups for the elderly to soften the impact.

Liberal Democrat spokesman Simon Hughes said: "In stead of taxing the sick, isn't it time the Government started trying to make them better?"

Peter Curphey, president of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, said: "This rise may well be small, but for some people it will be the final straw which will prevent them from obtaining the NHS treatment they need."





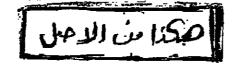


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Chain reaction: A mountain biker takes advantage of early spring sunshine on the edge of Lake Bala in North Wales

Mr A. Nino weathers a storm of protest

By Charles Arthur Science Editor

FEW PEOPLE know what it's like to be mistaken for a shifting mass of warm water in the Pacific Ocean. But one man in the town of Nipomo, on the coast of California, does. Oh yes, Alfonso Nino - "Al" to his friends - certainly knows.

The phone calls started a few weeks ago. As the weather worsened, so did the tones of complaint. Sometimes the peopie were rude - and at first the retired naval pilot was con-fused by them. "What the hell do you mean by making it rain so much?" they would ask. Then the penny dropped: they thought that Al Nino was El Niño, the ocean circulatory system which over the past few months has caused inches of unseasonal rain to be dumped on the state of California.

MUST HAVE DIALLO THE REAL

100 calls. "One man rang me and said I was responsible for his daughter losing her virginity," Mr Nino said. "I said, how? He said, because she couldn't get home one night because a storm blocked the road. I said I was sorry, though I didn't

know what she thought of it." Usually, he said; he just Mr Nino has had more than plays along with callers: "But the phone book.

some really believe it's my fault. I just play along with those ones. and warn them if they're not nice I'll make it keep raining."

And there's a silver lining to this cloud. Mr Nino, who is 75 a week today, has abruptly discovered that Andy Warhol was right about those 15 minutes of fame. He has featured in the local San Jose Mercury News, on his local television station, on television in New York, the Jay Leno Show, and countless radio shows. Meanwhile his phone number is now on the Internet. where people are wondering if he's related to the outdoor mural artist Al Fresco, the noted pasta chef Al Dente, or the reptile keeper Al Ligator.

Receiving our call from the UK reminded Mr Nino of Scotland. "I was posted there. My son was born there." And his son's name? "Alan." At least he'll know not to shorten it in

Welfare plan finds work for one-third

By Anthony Bevins and Glenda Cooper

NHS

bid to

Cut £70

fraud

ONE-THIRD of lone parents taking part in the "New Deal" welfare-to-work programme have been found work in the first six months that pilot schemes have been running, it was said last night.

ally be open to half of the 1 million lone parents currently claiming income support - those with children of school age ministers are closely monitoring initial results.

Harriet Harman, Secretary of State for Social Security, said last night that it was encouraging that once lone parents became aware of the advantages offered by the personal help they would receive, 90 per cent of those interviewed agreed to take part in the programme.

In the eleven pilot areas, 20,205 lone parents had been contacted in the first six months; there had been 4,584 initial interviews booked; 3,761 had attended those interviews; 3,368 had agreed to participate - and 1,113 had found work.

No breakdown was available of the kind of work taken up full-time or part-time, pay rates, or sectors - but the Department has ordered an independent evaluation, which will provide greater detail, including a comparison with areas where the scheme is not operating.

But one of the case studies provided by the Department cited the case of a woman of 39, with two children, aged 11 and 15, who had been on income

support for seven years. Having left school at 16 without formal qualifications, she started work last September as a sales assistant, and was now £84.40 a week better off in

In another case, a woman of



31, with three children aged 4, 8 and 10, was £33.35 a week better off as a receptionist.

Ms Harman said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had already made £300m available for out-of-school childcare for low-income families which was helping the lone parents taking part in the

After a "manifesto" for lone-parent families was delivered to No 10 yesterday, Sally Witcher, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, said the New Deal scheme for lone parents was welcome, but not enough, partly because it was aimed only at those with schoolage children.

"The extent of child poverty among lone parent families is a national scandal," she said.

Poverty does not have to be an inevitable consequence of lone parenthood, although cuts to lone parent benefits will increase the likelihood of poverty. Instead, with proper support, lone parents could be enabled to have real choices - as parents or as workers, or in combining the two important roles."

'Obsessed husband behind acid attack'

An obsessed husband arranged to have concentrated nitric acid thrown in the face of his estranged wife - only for the teenage baby-sitter to be scarred by mistake, a court was told yesterday.

Beverley Hammett, 21, her face still bearing the scars of the attack, told the jury how she felt a "burning sensation" after opening the front door on hearing a noise outside the house.

The woman said by the prosecution to have been the real target of the attack, 37-year-old Susan Humphrey, told Exeter Crown Court that she could not believe the sight of the baby sitter's face - "I will never forget

it. I could not believe someone could do something like this," she said.

Her estranged husband, Peter Humphrey, 51, from Axminster, Devon, pleaded not guilty to two charges of aiding and abetting a person or persons unknown to cause grievous bodily harm on 10 July 1996.

The court was told that Mr Humphrey was so "consumed by jealousy" at the breakdown of his marriage that he "caused or helped" another person who has not been traced - to hurl acid into the face of his es-

tranged wife. The trial was adjourned

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Time marches on for grand old man of the news

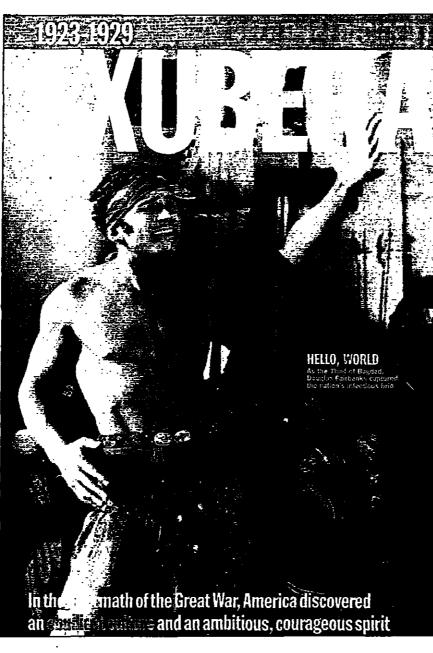


Images of the age: Time's first cover, with House Speaker Joseph Cannon, the anniversary issue, and Douglas Fairbanks and Charles Lindbergh



By Steve Crawshaw

IT BEGAN in 1923 as a bright idea launched by two Yale graduates in their entirely untried idea. The philosophy was clutter of information we're exposed to, everywhere. and to try to make sense of the world".







ence point, a shorthand for fame. This twenties. Henry Luce and Briton Hadden week, some fortner cover subjects - increated a 32-page news magazine - an cluding President Clinton, Mikhail Gorbachev, Bill Gates and Muhammad Ali clearly defined: everything should be "tit- will be among those attending Time's 75th illating or epic or super-curtly factual". As birthday celebrations at Radio City Muthe confident prospectus declared, the aim sic Hall in New York. Time is the acceptof the magazine was to "cut through the ed grand old man of news magazines

Paradoxically, the Man of the Year slot Three-quarters of a century later, was invented as a way of covering up the global news magazine, with regional Eu-Time magazine has taken on an almost em- fact that the magazine had failed to put blematic quality, representing the power Charles Lindbergh on the cover when he don and Hong Kong respectively.

ries have become an international refer- cover story in a quiet week for news at the end of the year - the first ever Man of the Year.

> The magazine - which, according to the original concept, was to be readable within an hour - remains predominantly American in its world view. But it sells almost a third of its 5.5 million copies outside the United States. In Britain alone, it sells almost as many copies as The Economist. Increasingly, it has become a ropean and Asian editions edited in Lon-

in New York argued that they made the respondents sometimes feel that New York Times - remains patchy. has turned a story upside down. As Lance Morrow notes in this week's anniversary gone from bad to good or good to bad in the editorial alchemy.

competition with Newsweek, the rival ers movie studios, and CNN. In the the same.

itors', not a writers', paper. The editors the national distribution of the heavyweight daily press - the Washington Post, stories easier to read and understand; cor- the New York Times, or the Los Angeles dependent in spirit. It insists, too, that the

Time is now part of a media empire

or at CNN are clearly limited.

But Time insists that it can remain inprospects remain good. The chairman of Time Inc. Don Logan, noted last June: "I whose influence is so enormous that crit- don't know of anybody making money on issue: "Sometimes correspondents in the ics see damaging conflicts of interest. In the Internet." In the meantime, howevfield and editors in New York took exactly some ways, these mirror the controversy er, Time's own emphasis on online access opposite views about whether a story had in recent days over Rupert Murdoch's in- has continued to grow. The magazine now tervention to prevent publication of a book advertises five separate online services. by Chris Patten that would be critical of Time magazine is used to re-inventing its For the enthusiasts, this is a key source China. The Time-Warner empire includes, format. That will no doubt continue, of well-packaged information - in constant alongside Time magazine, Warner Broth-even if the heart of the magazine remains

Wife-killer doctor | Railtrack warned of jailed for six years safety prosecutions

was failed for six years at the Old Bailey after admitting that he battered his wife with a hammer and then threw her to her death from their bedroom window.

Vivian Harris, 51, bludleast seven times as she sat sipping coffee with her back to him on the patio of their home in Beckenham, Kent.

He had suffered severe depression over impending divorce proceedings, said Nigel Sweeney, for the prosecution.

Harris, a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist at Lewisham and Guy's Hospitals, London, admitted manslaughter in June last year due to diplea of not guilty to murder was accepted by the court. Mrs Harris's skull was frac-

tured and fragments of it scattered on the patio in the attack - but she was still alive. Harris then wrapped her in a bin liner and sheet and carried her upstairs to the first-floor master torment for the crime would bedroom where he threw her

A LEADING gynaecologist back on to the patio, said Mr Sweeney. She died from a fractured spine.

The Recorder of London, Sir Lawrence Verney, said he had heard from three psychiatrists that Harris was suffering from geoned his wife Jocelyn, 39, at a depressive illness which substantially impaired his mental responsibility for the acts.

> He said: "The responsibility for the death of your wife is yours and yours alone. It is a responsibility which is diminished in accordance with the law because of your medical condition at the time - but it is not extinguished or shared."

Harris first tried to cover up the death of his wife - a former nurse - by pretending to police minished responsibility. His she had fallen from the window. Then he confessed he had "snapped". Harris said that over the last two months she had subjected him to the "most unbelievable feeling of worthlessness over the insane, crazy divorce."

Defence counsel Julian Bevan QC said Harris's guilt and

By Randeep Ramesh

RAILTRACK, the owner of the nation's railways, could face criminal prosecutions over the "persistent poor condition" of some tracks.

The concerns of the Health and Safety Executive came to light in a letter to Railtrack from the deputy inspector of railways, Vic Coleman.

That said prosecutions of

Railtrack by the HSE were be-

ing considered. In two cases, Mr

Coleman wrote, track was "in such an extremely bad condition so as to be unsafe". Railtrack already faces an HSE prosecution over a freight train crash at Bexley in Kent in February last year when seven

wagons left the track, injuring four members of the public. The inspectorate remained "concerned about the condition of track on the Railtrack net-

a passenger train left the rails at Harwich, injuring a passen-

ger. Two days later, a nuclear waste train was derailed a mile along the same line.

Mr Coleman said his inspectorate would not tolerate track that was "not being maintained in a condition so as to reduce the risk of railway passengers and employees so far as is reasonably practicable".

Railtrack said it had met safety inspectors last week. The railway is safe and this remains a Railtrack priority," a spokesman said.

The company's critics say it is parsimonious. "Railtrack has underspent its maintenancebudget by £277m, so a less safe railway is an understandable result," said Jonathan Bray of Save Our Railways.

Safety is a key concern for Railtrack. It had a setback in 1994, when it took over from British Rail. Then empty passenger coaches were derailed on tracks approaching Euston station, London. The HSE then is-In one incident highlighted, sued an enforcement notice making the company replace worn-out tracks.

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DAILY POEM

Curtains By Mike Harding

The way he drew the curtains trked you so, His magazines left on the seats of chairs, His bubbling pipe, the broken mouse-turd trail Of dried-hard mud from his boots up the stairs,

His cough before he spoke and those old lines "Well, worse things happen at sea", "Fair doos!" And "Cheer up, you're a long time dead!". But now as you Oxfam his clothes and shoes,

Those Christmas ties he never wore, And bin his "comics" and his tarry pipes What would you give to find those shards of mud, The morning curtains hanging "just not right",

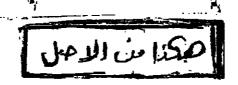
A chip of cough from somewhere in the house Before "Love have you seen my?"

Our poems today and tomorrow come from Crystal Set Dreams, the second collection by the travel and children's writer Mike Harding, who is also well-known as a folk singer and comedian. Crystal Set Dreams (£7.95) is published by Peterloo Poets, 2 Kelly Gardens, Calstock, Cornwall PL18 9SA.

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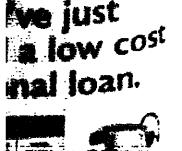
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but 6.7 per cent of secondary

salary of primary deputy heads will be about £27,000 and sec-

ondary deputies around

£35,000. The equivalent fig-

ures for heads are £32,000 and

David Hart, general secre-

tary of the National Association

of Head Teachers, recognised

that good teachers were worth

their weight in gold" but added:

"It is very unlikely that there will

be enough money in school budgets to pay the salaries de-

manded. There are many more

good teachers in schools than

those who will be covered by this

the crisis in recruitment for

heads and deputies: "If you can

get that sort of money by being

an advanced skills teacher, why

als are based on recommendations from the teachers'

independent pay review body

which says that superteachers

should have extra duties on top

of their classroom teaching,

should not have the same limit on their working time as or-

The Government's propos-

apply to be a head?"

The scheme would deepen

Head teachers' leaders said

deputy heads.

rebel over

they would be advising heads teaching as a career." and governing bodies not to ap-Advanced skill teachers will point superteachers unless spend up to 20 per cent of their heads' and deputies' differentime spreading good practice to tials were protected. other schools. From next year, the average

The first teachers on the new grade will be selected this September and work both in specialist schools and the first education actions zones, designed to raise standards in deprived areas.

mitment to rewarding the best

teachers and encouraging the

brightest graduates to take up

Teachers said the new arrangements would create unfair divisions among teachers. Eamonn O'Kane, of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers, said: "The great majority of able, committed teachers will, by definition, not be eligible to become advanced skills teachers and that is bound to cause resentment."

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "There will be big problems created by cutting across the management structure in schools, and the structure of extra pay for responsibilities."

A survey of members of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers found that teachers thought between a fifth and a half of the profession should be recognised as advanced skills



6 It's standards that matter ?

By Ben Russell Education Correspondent

FORMER teacher of the year Vic Ecclestone had to create a new job title to carry on his work to raise standards on one of Britain's most deprived council estates.

Mr Ecclestone, a full-time special needs teacher at Hartcliffe School in Bristol, took up the specially created post of head of extra mural studies, working with pupils to bring sport and the arts to the comprehensive and its neighbouring primary schools.

Thanks to his efforts, children on the tough estate were given access to groups such as the Royal Ballet and the Welsh National Opera, through a range of extra-curricular activities which have helped produce a dramatic rise in GCSE pass rates.

Mr Ecclestone, who has taken a year's leave to help set up an educational charity bringing arts projects to primary schools in Bristol, was named Disney teacher of the year in recognition of his efforts.

Yesterday he welcomed plans to promote classroom "superteachers", but said giving teachers the time to promote high standards was more important than money. He said: "In my case it was not the money so much as being able to make time available to do

Red-tape protest moves closer

THE biggest teaching union will decide this week whether to ballot on a campaign to boycott classroom bureaucracy, writes Judith Judd.

A survey by the National Union of Teachers found that reachers complained about bulk photocopying to remedy book shortages, copying out lists, chasing up absent or late children and time-wasting preparation for inspections.

Anger among teachers about paperwork and red tape is growing.

Leaders of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers have already decided to ballot members over red tape as part of their campaign to let teachers

Members of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers will vote at their Easter conference on a motion calling for strike ac-

tion, if necessary, to reduce the stress on primary teachers.

Recommendations from a government working party on red tape have failed to end the profession's frustration over the bureaucratic burden on

The NUT is expected to decide this week on a ballot which could lead to a boycott of some

Doug McAvoy, its general secretary, said: "The profession has always been clear in its attitude to non-teaching duties. If they support teaching and learning, the hours spent are worthwhile - but must be within acceptable limits.

"What teachers detest most is the ever-growing list of tasks and the hours they consume which contribute nothing to their pupils' development and the quality o their teaching."



A YOUNG offenders' unit has been forced to spend thousands of pounds changing locks after an inmate with a photographic memory copied a vital

set of master keys. The inmate at Castington Young Offenders' Institute, Northumberland, who is believed to come from a family of locksmiths, memorised the shape and size of the keys after seeing them for only a few seconds. It is believed that he then fashioned the copies from

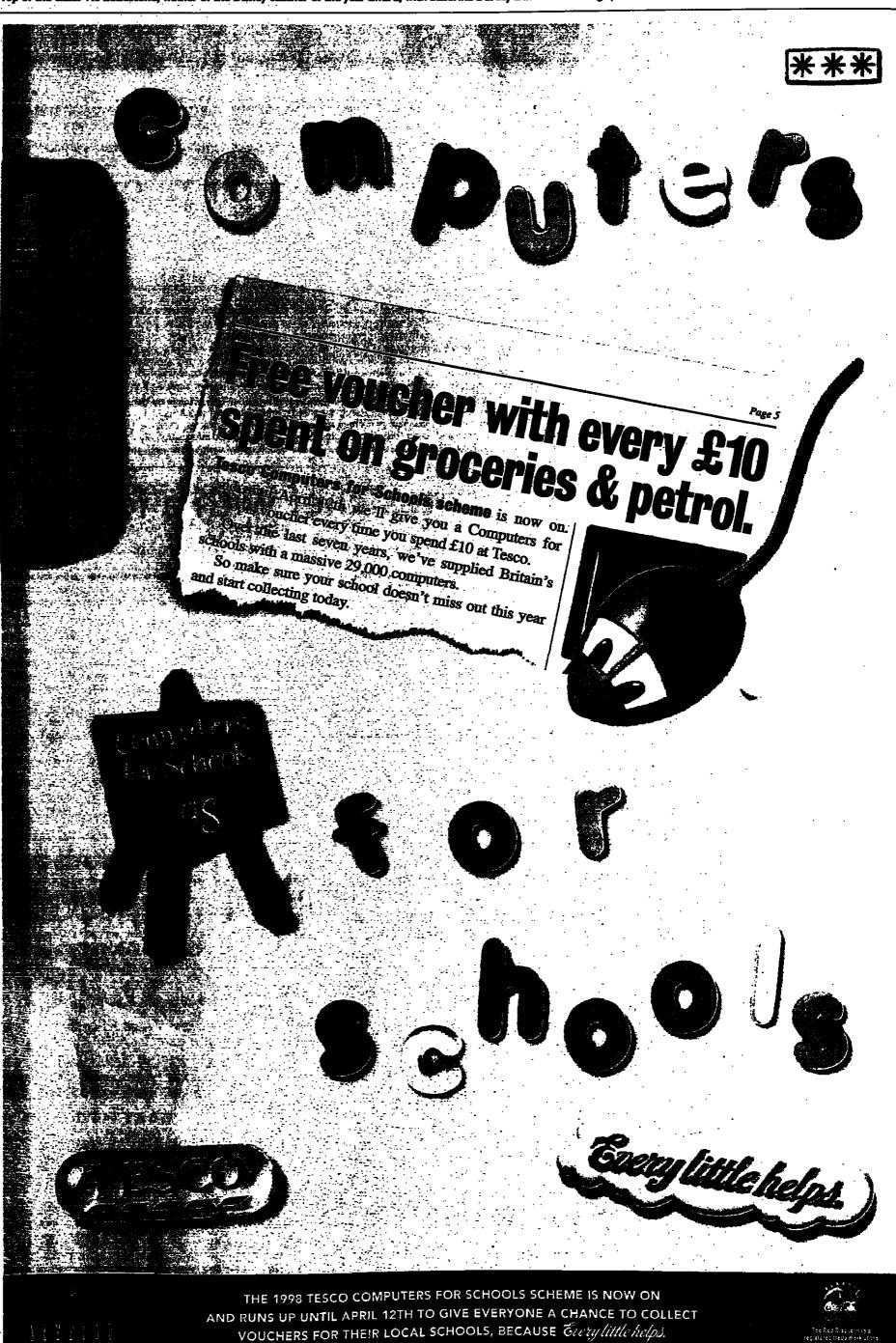
a plastic mirror.. The alarm was raised when a spot check uncovered highquality copies of at least three keys hidden in his cell. As soon as they were uncovered managers at the unit ordered a

complete change of locks in order to quash any fears of a break-out.

A spokesperson for the Prison Service said: "A key compromise has taken place at the prison. It has now been dealt with and all the security precautions necessary have been

Gary Eckersall, vice-chairman of the Master Locksmiths Association, said: "To just have a quick look at a key and then make a copy would be very

difficult." No one at Castington would comment on the cost of replacing the locks, but a Prison Service spokesperson said security measures would be taken to prevent it occurring again.



EXCLUDING PURCHASES FROM COFFEE SHOP, RESTAURANT, TOBACCO KIOSK, NATIONAL LOTTERY, PHARMACY AND MEDICINES.

By Imre Karacs

RATTLED by his party's heavy defeat in Sunday's Lower Saxony elections, Chancellor Helmut Kohl angrily rejected suggestions yesterday that he should ahandon his attempt to gain a fifth term of office.

"I am it." he curtly replied, when asked if the Christian De- party is expected to make an mocrats had a candidate strong enough to take on the opposition's newly-acclaimed champion. Gerhard Schröder. Mr Schröder was officially endorsed by the leadership of the Social Democrats yesterday after scoring the party's biggest victory in his region.

With 48 per cent of the votes, up nearly 4 per cent, the SPD secured an absolute majority in the Hanover assembly. The results of the Christian Democrats, with just under 36 per cent, were virtually unchanged. "This is a very disappointing election result for us." Chancellor Kohl conceded.

He had made 11 campaign appearances in Lower Saxony, Mr Schröder's attempt at securing the SPD nomination.

The strategy clearly backfired, "Because he turned it into a primary, Helmut Kohl determined the outcome of this election," Mr Schröder said.

The rematch will take place on 27 September, when Chancellor Kohl faces the voters' scrutiny in elections to the Bundestag. His challenger, Mr Schröder, is lean, 14 years younger and enjoys a popularity rating twice as high as Mr Kohl's. The SPD are about tell whether this combination will 6 per cent ahead of the Christian Democrats.

The omens are not good for stuff of nightmares.

come up with something," said Ingo Friedrich, deputy chairman of the Christian Social Union, the Bavarian sister of the Chancellor's party.

But other leaders of the Christian bloc closed ranks, arguing that it would be suicidal to ditch Mr Kohl at so late a stage. No senior figure in the open challenge, but continued talk of Mr Kohl's vulnerability against an opponent he failed to anticipate will not help his cause.

Mr Schröder, meanwhile, was busy setting out his store in Bonn yesterday. True to form, he dropped one small bombshell on the first day in his new role, warning the Greens not to count on a place in government, should he win. His antipathy to the Greens is legendary. But, as he admitted, the SPD cannot expect to win enough votes in September to govern alone. In Lower Saxony, Mr

Schröder took votes off every party, a feat he will hope to repeat on the national stage. He pledged to fight for the middle in the forlorn hope of spiking ground in politics, the same spot currently occupied by the Christian Democrats. "We're talking about a political programme which embraces both business and social responsibility," he declared after his triumph. "It has to be anchored in the centre."

While he battles in the "new middle", the left flank will be defended by Oskar Lafontaine, the SPD's party chairman, who gave up his ambition to run against Mr Kohl after being confronted with the magnitude of Mr Schröder's victory. Time will prove to be a dream ticket or, from the SPD's point of view, the



Serb police crush protest in Kosovo

By Andrew Gumbel

SERBIAN police charged into crowds of protesting Albanians in the capital of the southern province of Kosovo yesterday, knocking down scores of people with heavy clubs and water cannon in a brutal follow-up to a spate of killings over the weekend.

Despite international appeals for calm, the Serbian authorities appeared determined to silence by force all dissent in the Albanian-majority province. The offices of the Albanian-language newspaper

Koha Ditore were raided and its editor, the respected Albanian rights campaigner Vetan Suroi, was beaten up. Unconfirmed reports suggested there had also been exchanges of gunfire. Yesterday's demonstration

in Pristina, attended by tens of thousands of people, followed a weekend of police searches and armed confrontations across the province, particularly the Drenica region, in which at least 16 Albanians and four Serb policemen were shot dead. The past few days have seen some of the most serious

unrest since the Serbian au- Church. It has remained an exthorities stripped Kosovo of its autonomous status in 1989, raising fears in the international community of an open armed conflict in which the Albanians, despite their overwhelmingly superior numbers, are sure to be the big losers.

Kosovo was the issue on which the present Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, built his career - removing autonomy for the Albanians as a way of stirring up Serbian nationalism, as the province is home to some of the most holy sites of the Serbian Orthodox cuse to deflect attention from Mr Milosevic's political failings in Serbia and the rest of the former Yugoslavia, particularly since the emergence of a new armed element in the Albanian opposition koown as

the Kosovo Liberation Army. The KLA began openly claiming responsibility for the killing of Serbian policemen and Albanian "collaborators" last November, after months of dark rumours and conspiracy theories. Its actions have not only radicalised the conflict with the Serbs, but have poisoned political debate among the Albanians whose leadership has traditionally pursued a policy of non-violence. Since the end of the war in

Bosnia, Western governments have been trying to use the threat of continuing sanctions against Serbia as a lever with which to exact concessions on Kosovo and a return to some kind of autonomy. But the paradox is that Mr Milosevic and his cronies cannot afford to cede ground since Kosovo is one of the only cards they have to play to avoid political

The Albanians, meanwhile, are trapped in a paradox of their own. Kosovo can have no future as an autonomous province without fruitful dialogue with Belgrade - for economic as well as political reasons. But no leader in the current climate is going to advocate dialogue.

Indeed, for the past six years the Albanians have been developing a parallel power structure, organising their own schools and hospitals and pretending that the Serbs - including a 45,000-strong police

Michelin Guide consecrates chef with a foot in two kitchens



Inflated figure: The tubby old Bibendum, good for 100 years By John Lichfield m Pans

All prices include VAT at current rule. "Finance is subject to status A critical duration is available on request, Licensed Critic Broton Delivery changes and details on

IS IT it possible to cook, beautifully, in two kitchens at once? Yes, says the Michelin Guide. The little red bible of gastronomy broke, reluctantly, with 60 years of its own history yesterday and awarded two sets of three stars, its highest accolade, to one chef for two restaurants 600 miles apart.

Alain Ducasse, 41, acknowledged star of a new generation of cooks, became the first person to win six stars since the legendary "Mother" Brazier in the 1930s. His double consecration, for his restaurant in the 16th arrondissement in Paris and the Hotel Louis XV in Monte Carlo, is recognition by the guide of the managerial, super-star trend in haute cuisine. Yesterday Le Monde said the guide, after refusing to do so last year, had acknowledged that the future belonged to the "consultant chef", year the new slim-line Michelin man, or press my culinary philosophy".

the "designer" or food "couturier" travelling from kitchen to kitchen. Michelin had, in effect, abandoned the myth that the chef must be "both composer and pianist".

Not quite. The guide also gave three stars, for the first time, to two restaurants whose chefs still get their hands covered in flour. Pierre Gagnaire, who became the first chef to go bankrupt running a threestar restaurant three years ago, has regained three stars for his new place in Paris. The 33-year-old Pourcel twins, Jacques and Laurent won three stars for their restaurant, Le Jardin des Sens, in Montpellier, bringing the number of three-star restaurants in France to 21, the highest total yet.

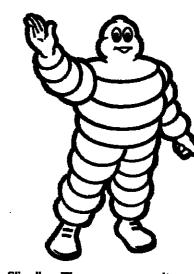
We started in 1988 without a penny. For a few months we even did the washing up," said Jacques Pourcel, who becomes with his brother, the youngest three-star chef. The Michelin Guide, featuring this Bibendum, on his 100th anniversary, is France's most feared gastronomic publication. It refuses to discuss or explain its judgements, shaped by reader recommendations and the findings of its 80 shad-

There is, inevitably, something of the food-political about its pronouncements. Apart from official consecration of the peripatetic, couturier-chef, the significant development this year is the equal honours given to the stars of the classical, wonderful-sauce-with-everything French approach and more adventurous, or heretical, chefs, like Mr Gagnaire, open to foreign influences and ingredients. He lost face and fortune when his restaurant in St Etienne went into liquidation in 1995. Yesterday he said he had "lost everything, been driven from my home town, suffered insults and ironies. but managed to start all over again to ex-

As Le Monde pointed out, the influence of traditional French cuisine is in "retreat" all over the world. Terence Conran, the British furniture and restaurant magnate. plans to confront France on its home turf by opening a restaurant in Paris this year.

In reply to these challenges the guide has endorsed two separate approaches, usually seen as incompatible. By re-honouring Mr Gagnaire, the Michelin is endorsing a more open "globalist" cooking style. By doubly consecrating Mr Ducasse it has freed him, Le Monde predicts, to export his talents to America and elsewhere to re-establish the reputation of the classically French tradition.

If none of that means anything to you, or you see no reason to spend £100 on a single meal, the guide is still worth buying or borrowing. It contains 458 restaurants in the bib gournand category, where you can eat good regional food from £7 a head. symbol wheeled out by Michelin



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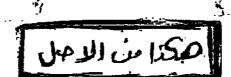
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Hardline Hindus close to poll victory in India

By Peter Popham

SONIA GANDHI'S

30,000 mile campaign has saved her party, Congress, from disappearing down the electoral plughole, but the Hindu nationalist BJP and its allies have established themselves as the pre-eminent force in Indian

That is the tentative conclusion being drawn 12 hours

general election.

On present trends the BJP will, as in the election of 1996, emerge as the largest party but without an overall majority. In 1996, it formed the government but fell 13 days later for want of coalition partners.

This time it has struck unprincipled but clever deals with some regional parties, and has manifested a new determinaafter counting began yesterday to fight harder to hang on to

predict that Atal Behari Vajpayee, the BJP's 72-year-old member for Lucknow, who led the country during those 13 days in 1996, will be sworn in for a second term as prime min-

If the BIP either defies predictions and wins outright or succeeds in putting together a stable coalition government, the election of 1998 will turn out to have been a watershed. Hindu nationalists have been

ister in the next couple of days.

around for a century, and the BJP has always been anotherna BJP has been an increasingly formidable political force since the 1980s.

If they can now form a stable government they will have a chance to demonstrate that they have the discipline and coherence to replace Congress as india's natural party of gov-

As "secularism" was one of the most important pillars of independent India, the Hinduwa, or "cultural nationalism", of the

to the Indian establishment. threatening to split the nation into mutually antagonistic tribes. That fear remains.

As one BJP enthusiast put it artlessly yesterday: "It's time the real Indians were given an advantage over the foreigners here" - meaning not only 150 million Muslims but large and ancient minorities of Sikhs,

Parsis and Christians, too. The high-water mark of rampant "cultural nationalism"

was in 1992, when BJP leaders were keenly involved in the demolition of a mosque at Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh which stood on a sacred Hindu site.

Since then, however, and especially in the present campaign, they have moderated their language and aims, striking alliances with Sikhs, Tamils and old-fashioned Socialists. Their primary constituency has been disaffected, high-caste Hindus, particularly Brahmins, in the countryside, and small

bers of the lower middle class in the cities

But as their claim to power grows in plausibility, more and more liberals and upper middle class voters have been tempted to give them a chance.

Five years of a stable BJP government, it is argued, could hardly be worse than the chronic instability of the past nine years, which have seen only one government complete its five-



hustings to save Congress

Famine threat in **N** Korea

ROME (Reuters) - The UN World Food Programme said yesterday that it was looking into a warning by famine-hit North Korea that it could run out of grain within two weeks.

A spokesman for the Romebased aid agency said WFP had shipments of 98,000 tonnes of grain from January to March for the 4.7 million people it has targeted. However, that leaves another 19 million North Koreans who could go hungry if Pyongyang's warning is true.

The official Korean Central News Agency earlier said that grain rations were cut in January and February but this had not stopped a drain on supplies. North Korea has been hit in the past two years by floods and droughts which have devastated the countryside, leading to reports of widespread deaths from starvation and large-scale emergency food relief from overseas.

A spokesman for North Korea's Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee said that at the start of the year. North Korea's total stock of grain was 167,000 tonnes for its 22 million people. "With this stock, 300 grams were distributed to each person on a daily average in January and 200 grams in February. Even if 100 grams are ibuted in March, the stock will run out in mid-March."



album the former material girl softens her image and expresses herself as a retro 'Candy Perfume Girl' Photograph: AP

Students protest as US envoy meets Suharto

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) - Dozens of riot police were deployed when about 600 college students staged a noisy

but peaceful protest against the government yesterday. The protest was staged as former US vice-president Walter Mondale arrived for talks with President Suharto over Indonesia's economic crisis. Mr Mondale, who is acting as a special envoy of President Clinton, is expected to urge Mr Suharto to stick with sweeping reforms promised under a \$43bn (£27m) IMF package. In Washington, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin denied Mr Mondale was sent to Indonesia to ask Mr Suharto to quit.

Vatican inquiry into abuse

VIENNA, Austria (AP) - The Vatican yesterday launched an investigation into allegations that the former Archbishop of Vienna, Cardinal Hans Hermann Groer, sexually molested young boys. The affair has threatened to split Austria's Catholic Church, and last Friday Austria's hishops issued a statement saying the allegations were essentially true. Groer was removed from his post in 1995.

Australia in weapons move

CANBERRA (Reuters) - Australia said yesterday it planned to draft a global treaty which would force nations to get rid of biological weapons. Foreign minister Alexander Downer said Iraq's violation of biological weapons conventions highlighted the need for an effective system to detect and take action on breaches. Australia's former ambassador to the UN, Richard Butler, is in charge of the weapons inspection operation in Iraq.

Cat comes off the menu

HANOI (Reuters) - The Vietnamese authorities said vesterday that they were ordering cat-meat restaurants to close and outlawing exports of cats to China because of growing problems with rats. Officials said bumper harvests meant the rodent population was booming, and that people should switch to eating rat instead of cat or snake. In Vietnam, cat and snake - both rat predators - are considered delicacies

Welcome to the wheelclamps

THE wheelclamp has finally reached Peking and about time too. The hope is that this will put the brakes on the more dastardly tactics used by the traffic

Last June, for instance. the Independent's modest runaround disappeared from outside one of the city's big hotels. Pavement hawkers quickly confirmed that a police pickup had made off with the car. But how to find it? There was no phone number to call, and no central depot. So there was no alternative to touring the city, from one police car pound to another, hoping to spot the vehicle. Four hours later, the car turned up dumped by the police in the car park of a four-star hotel.

An even more fiendish strategy was introduced late last year, probably because the gridlocked city streets were becoming increasingly tiresome for police pick-up trucks. Returning to the car, laden with shopping, one found the windscreen plastered with stuck-on notices. These informed the hapless car-owner that the traffic police had removed the front and rear number plates, which were being held for ransom at some

distant office. So the wheelclamp is to be welcomed. At least they have to come to you from now on. According to the Peking Traffic Control Bureau, however, the clamp is still in its trial

PEKING DIARY

phase because of unspecified minor mechanical flaws in its design". For the time being, the most reliable strategy in dealing with the traffic police remains the oldest - opening one's wallet and extracting large numbers of used notes.

VINTER lays low most Pekinse some point with a bout of flu. So I was fortunate to receive a visit recently from Zhao Yong, a geologist from the State Seismological Bureau, who has turned his attentions to curing the common cold. He and his doctor wife have invented a contraption which, they claim, can sort out sore throats, runny noses, and feverish headaches.

The new machine is basically a plug-in red baseball cap. One puts it on, plugs it into the mains, and a thermoelectric ceramic plate embedded in the top of the cap starts to warm up. Under this has been placed

Private health cover

a sponge soaked in a pungent potion, a sweet-smelling liquid of ledebouriella root, upleurum root, honeysuckle flower, and forsythia fruit. One then sits backs and gently cooks the top of one's head for up to an hour. "When you watch television, the effect is the best," said Mr Zhao.

According to Chinese medicine, a cold is caused by an "exopathogenic wind" getting into one's body. "Because it is light, it travels up and gathers in your head," said Mr Zhao. Heating up the head with the potion speeds up the circulation and opens the capillaries, so that the "wind" can escape.

If it was this simple, why

had no one thought of this before? "That's a very good question," said Mr Zhao. With the development of science and technology, people tend to worship medicine and injections. Maybe our cap looks simple, but the components are not simple at all." The cap is now on offer for £15 in at least one department store, but sales are disappointing. I suggest that the secret to commercial success might be as a baldness cure. Yes, it stimulates the circulation in the scalp, so can help the hair grow," said Mr Zhao.

TO ONE ever said journalism in an authoritarian, one-party, media-controlled country would be easy. But it is at least becoming increasingly prof-

cently organised a press conference to publicise the arrival in Peking this week of the National Theatre which is staging Othello as part of the "Britain in China" year. It is all part of the warming relations between

London and Peking. The Independent's Chinese assistant duly turned up for the briefing, in the company of about 20 journalists from local publications.

A press kit was handed out, with fulsome details about the theatre company and the play. But the best going-home present was not revealed until the end when the journalists were each handed a white envelope. A theatre ticket, wondered my assistant? Even better. A crisp 100 yuan (£8) note - not to be sniffed at in a city where the average week-

ly wage is little more than that.

Inquiries were made to the British Embassy as to whether this was British taxpayers' money being used to buy favourable coverage of Othello in the local press. Absolutely not, was the reply. The press conference had been jointly arranged by the China Performing Arts Agency, and it had secretly organised the bungs for Chinese hacks. Such pay-offs are routine nowadays within the Chinese media. but are rarely offered to foreign journalists. So when the office is strapped for cash, one's Chinese assistant is duly dispatched to do the rounds.

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Russia rejects use of force in Iraq deal

By David Usborne in New York

BRITAIN found itself deep in diplomatic mud at the United Nations last night as Russia and other countries raised objections to a Security Council resolution aimed at strengthening the weapons inspections deal brokered a week ago by Secretary Cascard Voff Angan with Iraq

General Kofi Annan with Iraq.
Continued deadlock in the
Council could have serious
consequences for Britain and
the United States in any future
confrontations with Iraq. Work
was continuing on a draft text
last night, and some diplomats
held out the hope that a resolution could be adopted today.

As drafted by Britain, with clear encouragement from the US, initial versions of the resolution were designed to impart new solidity to Mr Annan's agreement. This promises UN inspectors access to eight presidential sites in Iraq so long as they are chaperoned by diplomats. More importantly, Lon-

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regional and national markets and the region's

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don and Washington are seeking a resolution that would be
a stage-setter for instant military retaliation should Saddam
Hussein violate the Annan
agreement. In that regard, however, their shared enthusiasm
for a resolution may now be
about to backfire.

When Mr Annan departed for Iraq, Washington calculated that whether or not it succeeded, his mission would make any future military strikes against Baghdad easier to justify. Judging by events in the Security Council, the opposite may turn out to be true.

With Russia in the lead, several Council members were still attempting last night to insert wording that would make it clear no action could be taken to punish Iraq for violating the Annan agreement without additional consultations occurring first in the Council. It was not certain yesterday whether Washington could accept that military action be preceded by Council deliberations.



Death wail: A woman mourns the child of a relative at a funeral held for 43 children in Baghdad yesterday. The Iraqi authorities blame the deaths of a shortage of medicine and food caused by UN sanctions Photograph: Yannis Behrakis

US dreams of ways to get rid of Saddam

By Patrick Cockburn in Amman

THERE were several hundred of them and they were terrified. They were soldiers and civilians belonging to the CIA-backed Iraqi National Congress, the umbrella group for the Iraqi opposition, and they were preparing to run for their lives after 120 members of their organisation were slaughtered when Saddam Hussein launched a surprise attack into the previously safe haven of Kurdistan 18 months ago.

I did not quite realise I was watching the debacle of the most ambitious and ultimately disastrous attempt to overthrow the Iraqi leader. It involved the CIA and other foreign intelligence services trying to use Kurdistan to launch a resistance war against Baghdad while supporting a military conspiracy against Saddam Hussein. Both failed dismally with the death of at least 300 Iraqis involved.

Now it may happen again. From all over the US Congress come voices calling for Bill Clinton to try to oust the Iraqi government. Senator Bob Kerrey, vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee. says: "I would first of all speak to the 22 million Iraqis who have been terrorised by this dictator and say: 'We are going to liberate you.'' Senator John McCain, a Republican on the Armed Services Committee, said: "I would say it's our goal to remove him from power because, as long as he's there, we're facing this enormous

challenge."

Few of the bellicose Senators who want to oust Saddam Hussein seem aware the US made a big effort to do just that in 1994-96 with disastrous results. It is a superficially attractive idea. Somehow the belief has never died in the West that the Arab world sees frequent mil-

itary coups. But the era of successful military conspiracies was the Fifties and Sixties. In the fast quarter-century few have succeeded. Security services are too pervasive. Military élites are too comfortable or frightened to take the risk.

frightened to take the risk.

This is true above all of fraq. If there is one political art Saddam Hussein has mastered it is his own survival. A savage system of tribal checks and balances prevents anybody accumulating enough power to launch a successful conspiracy. Almost all have been crushed before a single tank rolled.

The outcome of the latest crisis makes it far more difficult for any foreign backed resistance to get off the ground. The Iraqis and the Arabs see the agreement brokered by the UN as a victory for Saddam. They believe it is a sign US resolve to overthrow him is full of doubts. For instance, the US has always made it clear it wants a coup, not an insurrection. It does not want Iraq to break up.

The CIA knew the difficulty of their task when President Bush first directed them to get rid of the Iraqi regime. But with Iraq having replaced the Soviet Union as the Americans' chief demon the agency was in no position to say no. Its failure to accomplish anything attracted little publicity in the US.

There is a measure of absurdity in the projects put forward in Washington. Paul Wolfowitz, former senior State Department official, says mutinous detachments of the Iraqi army should be invited to march to safe havens in Kurdistan or the marshes of southern Iraq. In fact, the Kurdish mountains have been unsafe for Saddam's opponents ever since the INC were slaughtered or fled in 1996. There never were safe havens in the south. All defecting Iraqi soldiers would find is a few guerrilla bands fighting to survive in the swamps.

Iran calls for more EU links

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) - The Iranian President, Mohammad Khatami, yesterday called for better ties with Italy, saying relations should be based on "respect and mutual understanding",

Iranian radio reported.

During a meeting with the Italian Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini. President Khatami expressed regret that years of animosity with the West have deprived Iran of the opportunity to better understand that part of the world.

"We would like to join hands and enter a century in which human ties are based on respect and mutual understanding," he said.

Mr Dini, who began his visit at the weekend, is the first Western cabinet official to travel to Iran since the European Union lifted is ban last week on high-level visits. EU foreign ministers said several encouraging developments in Iran, including the election in May of Mr Khatami, required a positive response toward the country.

The new EU position differs sharply from United States policy, which sees Iran as a rogue state that must be isolated. US sanctions ban large investments in Iran by any country.

Nigeria to escape sanctions

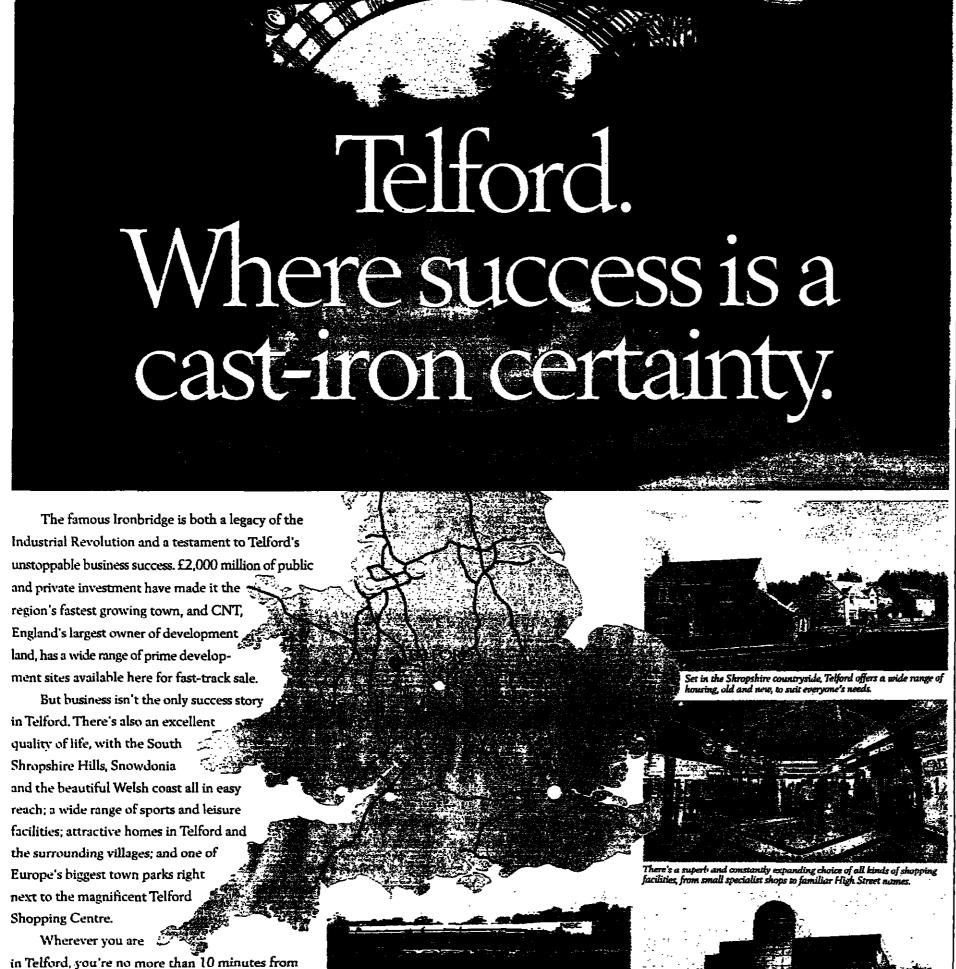
By Rupert Cornwell

NIGERIA is again likely to escape the imposition of sanctions by fellow Commonwealth states in response to human rights abuses by the regime in Lagos.

The Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG), meeting in London, will today ponder whether to convert Nigeria's suspension into full-scale expulsion and impose sanctions.

The latest deadline is October, the date by which the regime of General Sani Abacha has promised to restore democracy. In practice, the eight-nation CMAG is split – between Britain and Canada who insist sanctions should have been imposed long ago, and members like Malaysia and Zimbabwe who feel the human rights weapon could one day be turned against them.

The most realistic outcome to be expected from the talks, British officials say, is agreement to send a team to Nigeria before the elections to spell out the Commonwealth's disapproval. Whatever the Commonwealth comes up with could be trumped by General Abacha, if he manages to line up all Nigeria's parties behind him as single candidate for the October elections. In that case he would stay in power, claim a plebiscite to boot, and leave CMAG even more at a loss over what to do.



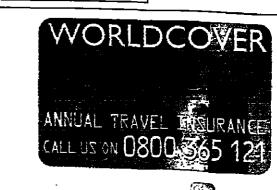
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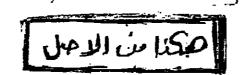
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Family man: Tom Robinson was famously homosexual, then changed his mind. He and Sue Brearley had a baby son in 1990

Photograph: Camera Press

Glad not to be gay

Coming out 'in reverse' provokes shock and anger in . the homosexual community, writes Vanessa Thorpe

STAFF at the gay men's magazine Attitude are preparing for an onslaught of calls from puzzled readers. The latest issue of the glossy, thrusting title has thrown down a challenge to the precepts of gay culture. On the first page is a discordant statement from the magazine's erstwhile acting editor, Ian Tucker. "I just woke up one morning," he writes, "and realised I was straight as a pussy."

Now this is the kind of sudden proclamation of proud heterosexuality which raises a lot of eyebrows in the gay world. "We can see, even from the reaction so far, that people are intrigued by what Ian wrote and what they thought he was saying," says Adam Mattera, the man now temporarily at the helm of the magazine. "For some gay men, when they hear someone whom they imagined was part of the gay scene saying they are not homosexual, it shocks them."

Ideally, he stresses, no one should ever be "chided" for what they are. "But it does happen sometimes, perhaps because the gay community is a bit closed and incestuous."

The impact of Mr Tucker's backwards version of publicly coming out, set as it is within the pages of the publication dedicated to gay culture, is revealing. Not for him the cry of "bravo" that

greets a gay outing. Cold lips and sneers from of yourself," he says. "I don't really believe in ical stance. Anyone who starts to see a man is his gay contemporaries are more likely, especially if they are the kind of men who still contemp- them socially useful." tuously refer to heterosexuals as "breeders".

"Ever since the fairly resent introduction of the idea of the modern homosexual, such a per-son has been defined by his rejection of marriage and of sex with women, "says Mark Simpson, the controversial editor of Anti-Gay, the 1996 collection of essays, and someone who has recently discouned the label "gay".

Beyond the glamorous world of amorphous

sexual identities, although I think people find potentially a traitor. Theresa Flynn, a 30-year-

"Look at diffin prisons, in the armed services, or in the partic schools that most judges have been to," he says. He goes on to quote the old naval rubric, "It is never queer unless you are tied to the pier," which means that gay acts car-

ried out while at sea do not "count". Like other formerly gay men and women,

'Men may turn to women, frankly, because those relationships stand a better chance. If you want something stable and nurturing, then everything points to making a woman the centre of your life'

sexuality peopled by rock stars like David Bowie Mark Simpson's own rejection of the term has and even Tom Robinson, the question of who you sleep with is still a crucial part of how people view you, Simpson complains. He feels he no longer wants to play by such strict rules. Everything is defined too negatively, he says.

"Who you don't want to have sex with becomes the biggest part of how you are defined. If you become gay, you swap to defining your identity around not sleeping with women and you end up with just as much of a cartoonist's idea

sprung partly from the hope of finding family life. 'Men may turn to women, frankly, because those relationships stand a better chance. If you want something stable and nurturing then everything points to making a woman the centre of your life rather than a man."

Women who back away from the gay label often experience the same shock and distress from lesbian friends. The criticisms is often worse when those involved view lesbianism as a polit-

old HIV counsellor, has suffered in this way. She Even within the conservative British estab- went out with a woman for six years and is now lishment sexuality is secretly mutable, he argues. looking for a relationship with a man. "I started to realise I wasn't finding any women at parties that I was attracted to," she says. "I started to think about men and their more muscular, bigger bodies."

Theresa did nothing for a year and then confided in a straight friend who unfortunately blurted it out. "I was upset. It had all come out back to front and my gay friends were confused because they had met me as a lesbian and never questioned it. One of them hurt me by saying she saw me in a completely different way now

and would not feel so easy talking to me." Theresa realised she had expected lesbians to be more accepting of changing sexuality. "I felt I was being pushed out of a group," she recalls. "I was very linked into the lesbian and gay scene and suddenly I had no one to go out with."

The embattled nature of life for male and female gays will mean for some time that a decision to come out publicly deserves to be applauded. Channel 4, for example, plans to dedicate an entire evening of programming on 25 April to a celebration of the act of coming out. The centrepiece of the schedule will be the first terrestrial screening in Britain of the famous Coming Out" episode of Ellen, the American sitcom. Such festivities may well be justified, but meanwhile those who come out in reverse feel there is nobody with whom to mark their own commitment to a new-found identity.

It all adds up to a culture of coupons

under the name of Willcox. The caller to the cosy Nailsworth, Gloucestershire. explained that the party would be taking advantage of special money-off vouchers from a national newspaper which meant their dinner would cost only £5 a head.

So imagine the surprise of the restaurant's staff when the "Willcoxes" turned out to be the Princess Royal and her husband, Captain Timothy Laurence.

The couple, who brought with them the requisite two tokens but had not filled in their name and address "for security reasons", treated their friends to curried parsnip soup followed by a choice between venison sausages or a fish dish. Had they chosen from the standard menu, £5 would have bought each diner a starter or a third of a main course. The story, reported at

the weekend, allows us a fascinating glimpse of life behind the closed doors of Gatcombe Park: Princess Anne eagerly scours her morning paper, scissors in

She spots a coupon. Two for the price of one on Eurostar! Snip, snip. And what's

THE table was booked for six me on an almost monthly basis to explain about all the different discount schemes and offers I've been missing out on. Naturally I agree to anything that's offered to me which might save me money, and I've agreed to so many different things in the past year that I now have no idea

what I've agreed to. I'm a member of Friends & Family, and I think I might even be a member of something called Friends & Family Plus, although it's possible I imagined that.

I have a feeling I've also got something called Premier Line, but I've no idea what it's for. I think it means I can pay my bill over the phone, but I've never tried to

Barclaycard Profile Points. Every month my statement tells me how many more points I've carned and what my running total is. I also have a glossy brochure showing me all the fabulous gifts I can get by cashing in my points. I've worked out that I get roughly a penny of gift value for every pound I spend, but this doesn't prevent me from feeling an avaricious tingle of anticipation every time I flash my

Will I ever cash my points

TIM HULSE

this? A cut-price flight to Ire- in? Probably not. Perhaps the land! Snip, snip. And what about this? Ten pence off a packet of Persil! Snip, snip. And so on.

And why not? It may well be the case that the combined income of the Princess Royal and her husband is £273,000, but what the restaurant episode shows is that just like and the News of the World the rest of us, the Princess can't resist a bargain.

I know I can't. Nestling in my kitchen at home is a rather nice cafetiere which I obtained by collecting coupons from packets of Silk Cut. For many years I'd managed to live without the benefit of a cafetiere, indeed had lived quite happily without one, give or take the odd unfortunate dinner party moment involving a real coffee

But as soon as I saw I could have one for free, a cafetiere suddenly became a necessity. The fact that I've barely used it in the three years it's been in my possession hasn't diminished in any way my satisfaction in own-

And then there's British Telecom. A friendly BT salesperson who can't pronounce my surname properly rings

didn't know how strong I could

be for other people or how

frightened for them, or how

possessive. If anybody threat-

only surprising thing about the Princess Anne story is that she actually used her tocoupons and collect our points but nine times out of 10 we never bother to do anything with them.

I once bought The Sun every day for about a month, religiously cutting out my tokens for free air tickets. Then when I'd collected them, I looked at the small print and it seemed a bit complicated, so I threw them

But Princess Anne is made of sterner stuff. They say the Royal Family should be setting an example, and in this instance she has undoubtedly been a model to us all. To my mind, she's right up there with Phil Calcott, the man who discovered last January that by buying 942hs of bananas at his local Tesco he could make a profit of £25,12 on his Clubcard. Now there was a man who was really prepared to work for a

Me, I've got a Tesco Clubcard too, and I'm fully aware of all its benefits. It's just that I've never bothered to use it.

for his every waking moment that when I could finally let go

everything came out in a rush. I'm amazed that David

make that choice." I think one

of the most important things I

can give my children is the right

to be themselves. It is terribly

hard and I will always want to

be there guarding them. I get

jittery at the thought of Molly

even walking to school on her

It was like molten gold: a wave of perfect love swept through me

REVELATIONS: SAMANTHA BOND

The time: 1991 The place: West Middlesex Hospital The person: Samantha Bond,

GIVING birth to my child was excessively painful. I just went into one major contraction so the labour was incredibly fast - just an hour and haif? I can remember lying on the bed and feeling that my spine was slowly being pulled apart. All I could picture was myself as a small child peeling away the bark of small sapling and finding the white pure wood in the middle; that's the image I had of what the pain was doing to my body. There was no time for any drugs to help me and although I attended the classes and knew how to do breathing exercises, they rely on contractions coming and going. So I was on my own and screamed a lot. I was very, very frightened - I didn't believe that I could live through that

my heart to stop. My husband was wonderfully reassuring and comforting, but because I was so afraid, his main job was to keep my senses alert.

When I talk to friends about to have babies who are terrified of words like episiotomy, I tell them they just won't care. If someone had said to me, "We're going to take you leg off," I would have shouted back "FINE, CHOP IT OFF _ JUST STOP THE PAIN!" But afterwards none of it mattered because I had reached the other side and held this beautiful child.

I remember the midwife announcing that the baby had arrived - "It's a Molly." I was wheeled upstairs and my hushand went off to make all the phone calls. There was something magical about the ward; all the lights were dimmed. I remember looking at this angelically beautiful face, she was one of the most beautiful things I

level of agony. I was expecting had ever seen. She had been placed in this plastic crib beside me and I just lay there staring at her. At about 5am, I had a sensation which was like somebody had poured molten gold into my body. It started at my feet and this wave of the most pure and perfect love swept up through me. By the time it got to my head I was crying and this was all for this little thing I didn't even know. The passion was huge and violent and that feeling has never ever gone away. I'm constantly astounded at the size of the emotion I feel for my children. Before Molly was born, my

stage fright was getting appalling. When I got on stage I would have a rush of adrenaline, everybody gets it. Normally after the first night it becomes more controllable and as long as I could ride the wave I was still in charge. Gradually the fear stopped working for me and was replaced by a huge, cold, stark white terror. Eigh-



teen months after finishing my last stage work, I was still having recurring nightmares that somebody was going to make me do it again. My fear had completely overwhelmed me. I went to play Rosalind in As

Going to up Stratford had been one of my greatest dreams but the miracle was that my stage fright had disappeared. Suddealy the terror was replaced by a rush of excitement. Becoming a mother had, of You Like It for the RSC just 11 course, given me in a sense of weeks after Molly was born.

way, that gruelling labour had told my psyche that to feel so strongly about something as relatively unimportant as a stage appearance was ridiculous.

After my great wave of love for Molly, I often found myself crying over articles in the newspaper - before I would have just felt distressed. For my work, this is a bonus because as an actor I believe that emotions are my palette to pull up depending on what the role requires. I found all of my feelings were much more accessible; what is also incredible is that motherhood's crescendo of emotions never

goes away or calms down. Later in that season I played a mother, Hermione in The Winter's Tale, although I'd played them before, I am certain that performance was vastly informed by my personal experience. I knew the colossal love and what it must be like when somebody walks in and says: "Your son is dead," There is now a much more vulnerable side to me and my acting than there ever was before.

My children have helped me discover new bits of myself. I so tightly for him, being there

ens my children I feel like a Hare, a man, could have writlioness. Molly was being bullied ten Amy's View, this incredible at school and the strength of my play about the relationship beresponse to that situation was tween a mother and a daughawesome. When my son Tom ter, and in particular how a was three, he had appendicitis; mother's protectiveness can become interfering. At the end it was very nearly peritonitis so he was in a lot of danger. We of Act Three, my character, rushed him to hospital where Amy, says: "I knew what I was they would cut him open. I doing, I went in with my eyes would almost rather have peropen and it was my choice. I'm formed the surgery myself than an adult and I'm allowed to

allow somebody else to do that to my child. It was the most strange feeling. I was in hospital with him for three of four days sleeping on a little bed beside him. All the time I was there, I didn't cry once. It was like what I imagine it must be like to be on speed: I was ultra alert, all my senses were functioning at 200 per cent. The staff were wonderful but finally we got him home and I put him in his own bed. I sat down and had a glass of wine to relax. I woke up a 3am and was violently sick.

It must have been holding on

own. But one of the advantages of being an actor is that I'm good at disguises, so I'll follow them around until they're 27 they'll never spot mc.

Interview by Andrew G Marshall

'Amy's View' is at the Aldwych Theatre until 18 April.

Out on a limb: the pain of Raynaud's

I remember thinking, as I sat outside a pub in Dorset on a gloriously hot August afternoon, watching my left hand turn first white, then blue, then

a livid shade of purple. Over the next few weeks. I grew accustomed to these scribe was a warm pair of gloves. abrupt attacks of numbress. which were invariably followed by dramatic displays of colour. But it was not until six months later that I discovered what lay behind them: I had Raynaud's. a painful and potentially debilitating circulatory disorder.

People with Raynaud's are highly sensitive to temperature changes, which cause spasms in the small arteries of the fingers and toes, cutting off blood supply to the extremities. Opening a fridge door, or picking up a cold drink - even in summertime - can be a sufficient trigger. With the tissues starved of blood, ulcers develop which, in severe cases, can lead to gangrene and amputation.

Early diagnosis and treatment are important, particularly for patients for whom Raynaud's is secondary to a rarer and more serious disease, seleroderma. Yet there is still a high degree of ignorance, according to the Raynaud's and Scieroderma Association, which has just launched a national campaign to raise awareness.

The campaign, accompanied by striking black and white posters featuring a pair of hands with icicles hanging off them, is partly aimed at determining the prevalence of Raynaud's. Some estimate that it affects about 10 million people - nine-tenths of them women - in Britain, albeit in a mild form in most cases.

Among GPs, according to Anne Mawdsley, director of the association, there is still some

CURIOUSER and curiouser, asserting themselves more."

My own experience, it seems, was fairly typical. The first specialist whom I saw warned me that my fingers would drop off if I wasn't careful, but said that all he could pre-A year on, under the care of a team at the Royal Free Hospital in London, I know better. Conventional drugs - namely vasodilators, which widen the arteries - can help, as can certain

vitamins and supplements. Only the symptoms can be treated, though. There is no cure for the condition, which is named after Maurice Raynaud. the French doctor who published a thesis about it in 1862. No cause has been identified either, although some believe that stress can be a factor.

Anne Mawdsley, who suffers from a particularly severe form of Raynaud's, described the pain that she experiences. "It's excruciating. It feels as if your fingers have been squeezed in a vice, or trapped in a car door. Picking up a milk bottle, or walking from one room to another, can be enough to shut the blood supply down."

For about 3,500 people in this country. Raynaud's is the first symptom of scleroderma. an auto-immune disease which affects the skin and internal organs, and can be fatal.

Warm hands are the often clusive goal for people with Raynaud's, but gloves alone are not sufficient. The association stresses the importance of keeping the rest of the body warm, and of eating hot food, taking regular exercise and using heating aids, such as hand

The Raynaud's and Scleroderma Association, 112 Crewe Road, Alsager, Cheshire, ST7

reluctance to take Raynaud's se- 2/A, tel 01270 872776. . riously. "Doctors are better than they were in the past, but mainly because patients are

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Dilemma for doctor at cusp of research

Jeremy Laurance talks to the man at the centre of the controversy over the MMR vaccine

"IF I AM wrong I will be a bad person because I will have raised this spectre. But I have to address the questions my patients put to me. My duty is to investigate their stories."

Dr Andrew Wakefield is a

man under pressure. Last week he published research indicating a possible link between the MMR vaccination against measles, mumps and rubella and inflammatory bowel disease and autism. It is a finding that will have chimed with parents' deepest fears about the safety of exposing babies' developing immune systems to potentially toxic drugs. But it also threatens to destabilise carefully nurtured vaccination programmes which are acknowledged to have saved millions of lives worldwide. That is a heavy responsibility, as Dr Wakefield knows. "I have thought about this every night for the last ten years. My children say Why do you do what you do, Daddy?' and I do not know what to say to them. It is a moral issue for

His story begins in Canada in the late 1980s, where he had been working as a transplant surgeon. He became dissatisfied with chopping out pieces of diseased bowel and wanted to know what triggered the disease process in the first place. One freezing night, drinking a pint of Guinness in a bar, he had an inspiration. What if inflammatory bowel disease was not a bowel disease at all, caused by bacteria in the gut, but a vascular disease caused by damage to the blood supply to the gut wall?

"in something of a crisis" and set to work at the Royal Free Hospital, north London, to test his hypothesis. With his close colleague, Professor Roy Pounder, who has stood by him throughout their decade-long association, he demonstrated that the blood supply was indeed broken down by an insidious destructive process. They published the first of a series of papers in The Lancet in 1989, although their theory remains controversial.

The next question was what caused the blood vessels to break down. At the time there was a lot of interest in viruses in blood vessels. "I sat down with two volumes of a virology textbook and worked through it. I got to measles



Eye of the storm: The claims by Dr Wakefield (below) have chimed with parents' fears about exposing babies' to potentially toxic drugs

virus and it described how it gets into the gut, causing ulcers have been reading an account of Crohn's disease [inflammatory bowel disorder]. It was very exciting."

That was in 1990 and the pair started looking for measles virus in bowel tissue taken from patients with Crohn's disease. They have been looking ever since. In a paper in 1994 they

claimed to have found it and said Crohn's disease was three times more common in people who had had measles vaccination. That study triggered a new rush of parents to Dr Wakefield's clinic claiming their children had developed symptoms of autism and bowel disorders shortly after MMR vaccination. The result was last week's paper.

Morality and science make uneasy bedfellows. When Dr he refers to his duty to his patients. "We get these parents ringing up every day. They say 'My child has autism and bowel problems and we believe they are linked'. You have to do something for them. These are the people to whom we are answerable."

He admits this makes life difficult for public-health doctors whose corresponding duty is to care for populations, but it can't be helped. His patients come first.

Dr Wakefield, a reader in experimental gastro-enterology, is not a crank. His research has been published in The Lance, after being submitted to expert peer review. He has 12 co-authors on his latest paper and is regularly in-

comes in. DGS has been adopt-

ed by allergy specialists to de-

scribe not just irritable bowel

syndrome, but a condition

where patients can suffer symp-

toms all over the body

(headaches, impaired memory,

nasal discharge, skin rashes, fa-

tigue, tissue swelling, joint and

muscle pains, thrush and irri-

table bladder.) In nearly all suf-

ferers, investigations turn up

nothing and most struggle on.

But enthusiasts such as Pro-

fessor Jonathan Brostoff at the

Allergy Clinic at Middlesex

hospital have found that once

identified, a considerable num-

ber can be helped with an elim-

ination diet. It's called the

Stone Age diet and it's based



vited to speak at international meetings on gastro-en-

Yet he has been vilified and his research has been attacked as flawed and inadequate. Even The Lancet was nervous about it, commissioning a highly sceptical commentary and deliberately omitting it

from its usual press release "to major political and commeravoid being alarmist," ac- cial interests. Think of smok-

hugely outnumbered by those The Government moved swiftly to reassure parents. who believed they were on to while the research team, from something and whose bypotheses later died. Indeed. the Royal Free Hospital, emthe British Medical Journal dephasised that they remained in favour of immunisation. clared Dr Wakefield's hy-One of Dr Wakefield's copothesis dead in a an editorial published only six weeks ago.

authors confided last week that he would prefer to work on the link between bowel disease and autism and leave aside the emotive question of the link with MMR for the sake of a quieter life.

That remark drew a stinging response from Dr Wake-"If they are uncomfortable they should look for a quieter life else-

where. I can't do that." The history of scientific ad-

vance is littered with individ-

uals who held out against

tion claims and hundreds of patients who have harboured suspicions about the safety of vaccinating young babies will feel vindicated. If he is wrong, the consequences could be still more se-

If he is right about MMR,

governments worldwide will

have to rethink their vaccina-

tion policies, manufacturers

will face a raft of compensa-

rious if vaccination rates fall

and measles cases start to

Honestly officer, I've got auto-brewery syndrome



DR PHIL **HAMMOND**

DYSFUNCTIONAL Gut Syndrome - your questions answered.

What's that then? Irritable bowel syndrome with knobs on. In IBS you get pain, diarrhoea, constipation, wind, bloating and you might even pass some mucus...

Do you mind? I'm eating my ... but never blood. The doctor either tells you you've tional Gut Syndrome (DGS)

got irritable bowel straight out or you get on the old treadmill of blood tests, stool samples, steel tubes up the tail end and perhaps even the odd barium And then what happens?

You're told all the tests are normal and you've got an irritable bowel. It's very common there are millions like you, it's very miserable but it's not going to kill you. Treating the mind helps for some (hypnotherapy, psychotherapy, relaxation etc) but most doctors go straight for the bowel (fibre for constipation, anti-spasmodic drugs for pain, codeine for severe diarrhoea). Alas, this rarely gives complete relief and many patients end up giving up all drugs, which isn't such a bad thing.

So they're just left to lump

Yes. Because it's not a sexy, life-threatening disease, you don't got money pouring in to How about if you re-

launched it - with a new name?

Well that's where Dysfunc-

what our cave-dwelling ancestors did, our guts would be a lot healthier. So what is in our modern diets that does the damage? For many, it seems that refined sugars and carbohydrates are the culprits. These are gob-

bled up by yeast in the bowel,

which grow like crazy, wiping

out all the good bacteria and

mucking up bowel function.

Not conclusive and lots more research needs to be done. However, severe suffer-

And what's the evidence?

ers of DGS have often had protracted courses of antibiotics in the past which are well known to kill good bacteria and promote yeast growth. Also, a Gut Fermentation Test has been developed, on the principle that if you have a lot of yeast on board you do a lot of fermenting. Patients are given a 5g oral glucose load and their blood alcohol and aldehyde levels are measured afterwards.

What, so eating sugar can make these patients drunk? Perhaps not drunk, but a number have been found to on the principle that if we ate have blood alcohol levels above the legal drink-drive limit without having touched a drop. It's called the auto-brewery syn-

> I must remember it next time I'm stopped.

drome.

But most of the evidence is anecdotal, A lot of patients who've tried the exclusion diet perhaps in conjunction with some anti-fungal drugs, swear by it. Marita Cook, a theatre sister, who I met while filming Trust Me, I'm a Doctor, suffered from tiredness, aches and swelling of the face so severe that her mask couldn't hide it. Now she feels great.

Hang on. There are hundreds of books about the evil of yeast or Candida, all written by flaky people making outrageous claims - are you telling me they're right?

Some of what they say might be right, but they undermine it with unsubstantiated sensationalism. As Prof Brostoff puts it "We each have 30 ft of gut so it's difficult to know what's happening mid-way down there but of the studies that have been done, if you put patients on the right diet, half of them will get better quickly."

And what is the right diet? To kick out yeast, sugar and refined carbohydrate, you can only eat meat and fish, poultry and game (but not chicken), vegetables (but not potato, tomato and soya) fruit (except citrus) and nuts (except peanuts). You can drink additive free non-citrus fruit drinks, herb and fruit teas. Also in are BBC2

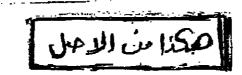
salt, pepper, berbs, olive or sunflower oil and rice. And for sweeteners, try honey, maple syrup, saccharine or aspartamine. You can kick of with two teaspoons of Epsom salts to get your bad diet out of the way.

What, no cereals, toast and yeast extract?

'Fraid not. And there are plenty of hidden pitfalls, eg preparing food for others or even licking stamps and envelopes can cause contamination. Smoking should be stopped too. Also, when you've been on the diet a while, some people use probiotics (eg live yoghurt) and prebiotics (specialised fibre food) from health food stores to encourage growth of good bacteria. These benefits are probable but not proven.

So not easy at all really? No. And because you'll need continuing support and encouragement and it has to be monitored closely to prove it works, it's best you try to be referred to a nutritionist or an al-

lergy specialist. The new series of Trust Me, I'm a Doctor starts tonight, Spm,



that his excrement is art, a gallery is perhaps the last place you should expect to find it

THIS is a curious business. The from the Linea series, sealed is a meaningless bluff. For it is sage. Step up, good people, become art. Oil no you don't, opened, and it's looking pretty scrolls of paper on which Mangood. It's had a comprehensive zoni had drawn lines of various renovation, which leaves its lengths, never to be opened. xhibition space larger, lighter, more open-plan - leaves it, that works like these, Manzoni put is, as a more efficient version of in question some basic notions. the all-white modern gallery it about the artwork. For example: was before, a better ideal home that it's a unique, permanent, for the modern art object. And physical, visible thing, a comwhat does it open with? A show of Piero Manzoni.

35 years ago, aged 29, after an alcoholic binge. Yet in the last six years of his life, he produced ing them to the limit. (What is has only extended the kinds of a body of work that puts him a thumbprint but the most objects and activities that can second only to Marcel Du- literal kind of "handiwork"; count as art - new ways of doing champ as an artist who revolutionised the nature of art. His influence on contemporary art, not least Young British Art, has been enormous, but his name hasn't had a lot of public recognition lately. In those terms a retrospective exhibition seems timely. On Manzoni's own terms, however, it can only look like an open contradiction.

It's good to see a photo of the artist, to catch the spirit - in place of Duchamp's knowing, enigmatic smile, you see a chubby, mischievous grin. Look, for instance, at the photo of Manzoni in front of a lavatory, holding up a can of Merda d'artista - artist's shit. This was his most famous production, a series of 90 tins, each preserving 30 grams of his own stool, and priced by Manzoni at the same rate as 30 grams of gold (the price fluctu- dream: the dissolution of that

ited daily with the markets). Or again, he designated humans as artworks, by signing them, or by issuing them with certificates. The critic and novurt for life; others got more tem-(artist's breath), he inflated

The mischief is clear. With modity with a market price, a vehicle for self-expression with The Italian artist died exactly a premium put on the artist's original handiwork. He challenged these notions by stretch-

other artists have questioned to the values of the art world. Everything stayed in place. All that happened was that

Manzoni's "questions", rather than achieving art's dissolution, enlarged art's repertoire. Performance art, conceptual art, body art: his legacy in the past 30 years is great. But what was meant to burst art's limits

seem to stand as relics of a high-

gallery exhibition as the con-

Magic Base, a wooden pyramid

structure with a flat top, on

which are stuck a pair of shoe in-

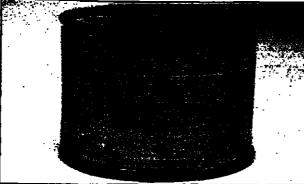
soles. Manzoni would invite peo-

would thus-hey presto-briefly,

themselves, become artworks.

This is felt most piquantly with

clusive stamp of this failure.



Manzoni's 'Merda d'artista No. 066', 1961

what are breath or excrement the same old business. (I don't but the most literal forms of complain, the results of this ex-"self-expression"?) He pursued, in short, a hopeful anarchic special category of things traditionally called art. Odd then to find him celebrated in a one-man retrospective of precious, unique originals, in an elist Umberto Eco was one who art gallery rebuilt the better to

got a chit making him a work of perform its traditional function. As the Serpentine's director, porary status. In Fiato d'artista Julia Peyton-Jones, asks (rhetor- ple to stand on this plinth: they ically): "How could a gallery preballoons, the shrunken remains sent such works as the Merda of which are shown here, as are d'artista without a self-con- But as it's exhibited here... well, some of the Uove con Impronte, sciousness that its very tenets are you can guess, can't you? It has hard-hoiled eggs bearing the being-questioned?" And I would a cordon round it. So the work

Serpentine Gallery has just reopened, and it's looking and tubes containing plainly true that Manzoni and become art. Oh, no you don't, keep back. It would have been art's tenets, and been much possible, if the original was too praised for doing so, without it fragile or too expensive, to make making the slightest difference a practical replica. But that wouldn't do, would it? The way the value of the original art object remains undisturbed couldn't be shown more clearly.

But maybe the cordon should be seen as really part of the work, a conscious editorial correction to it. It would be a way of saying: of course Manzoni's "magic" doesn't work any more, we know better now; all these ideas about the dissolution of art, nice anarchic hopes at the time, but quite unrealistic, quite impossible.

Certainly he was attempting the impossible, for the blunt reason that artists cannot unilaterally revolutionise the nature of art. The art world, and the world generally, have to agree. And it's hard to imagine, say, the present world agreeing not to trade in anything that's sellable. Today 30 grams of gold costs about £200: rather less, presumably, than the amount a can of Merda d'artista would fetch under the hammer. (Splat! That auction is a sight Pd like to see.) Meanwhile, the distinction between what's art and what's not is as rigid as ever. Manzoni's certificates are collectables, but no collector has tension have often been good.) tried, so far as I know, to purchase Umberto Eco. As for his own works, they now

Perhaps Manzoni was aware of the impossibility. The "magminded, historic failure, with ical" dimension of his work turning a person or a pocket of breath into art, turning shit into gold - seems ambiguous. It exposes the old idea of the great artist's transforming, value-creating touch. Yet this critical gesture also returns ironically on to Manzoni himself: a hint that his whole attempt to break the boundaries of art was itself no more than wishful conjuring.

But then Manzoni's "magi-

guirky:

Dray's

Jump,

'Bungee

Brighton

Benjamin



Piero Manzoni signs his 'Living Work of Art', at the Studio Filmgiornale Sedi, Milan, in 1961

Our breath, our shit, our bod- work in particular. ies, our most basic marks-these

side: not critical or ironic, but Manzoni's work itself stays well performing an act of simple within the confines of art, tries human. It's the most lasting and a vision, an elevating vision attractive aspect of his work. that radiates here from one

Socle du Monde (world things are worthy of all the hoplinth) is a large iron cuboid, on both in awe and as its makers. nour we have given to the great- one side of which the title is em-

exhibiting it. In a few square feet tering - upside-down. And, with that inversion, gravity is reit does what a certain dome, praise for the world and the to change nothing, offers only versed and the world itself now under construction, can only dream of doing. turned upside-down. This block at our feet is the planet's own pedestal, and for a moment we stand towards the whole earth

It's a noble emblem of human-

To 26 April, Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (0171-402 6075). Sponsored BMW Financial Services

Triumph of technicality

Tricks of the trade dominate the Royal Photographic Society's 141 st annual show, says Phil Johnson

GYPSIES: breasts made to look like Iron Age hill-forts or desert landscapes; nude pensioners; more gypsies; practitioners of age-old trades ("Whittler, Northingion Woods" by Michael Clement); tricksy conversation pieces: heach huts; gypsies again. The RPS Annual has been going a long time - this is the 141st show - and, like the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition, it's a reliable barometer of what might be taken to represent the contemporary picturesque. And now we know why gypsies keep moving around. It's mainly to escape all these intrusive photographers.

syndrome

It's an open competition and, with nearly 1,800 images to chase from for a final showing of 90 or so, the job of the selectors is clearly a difficult one, but even the judges display some qualms about the quality of the entrants.

John Easterby, the editor of the Independent Photographers Group, writes in the catalogue: "There was a mind-boggling range of technical skills on display. However, with no pictures of news events, social comment, attempts to address a single humanitarian issue, no reportage, fashion or sports photography to speak of, I was around a coffin while a woman left with the impression that here was a case of technical inventiveness triumphing over content. I really do wonder why many of these pictures

were taken." From a technical standpoint, There's Selenium toning, silver group or Asian women form use setting up of the shot, the discretization and silver bronze mirror gelitin and silver bronze mirror immer emerging into the top of the shot, the discretization into the top of the shot the discretization into the shot the discretization into the shot the discretization into the shot the shot the discretization into the shot th prints, Lith prints. Pokeroids and jumper emerging into the top of



the odd bit of digital retouching, but the beach huts and gypsies remain stubbornly

The winning entrant is "Die Trauerfeier" by Herbert Sternberger from Germany, which shows three couples dancing a headstand in the background. It's impressively odd, if ultimately, perhaps, yet another conversation piece.

Of the British photographers selected, Benjamin Dray's "Bungee Jump", in which a Bungee sump, a continue of the painstaking octagon Galleries in Milsom group of Asian women form the effort involved; the painstaking Octagon Galleries in Milsom setting up of the shot the discontinues.

the frame, is nicely quirky, but the overall impression in the show is of tricks of the trade mixed with rather obviously set-up shots, like a cross between Cartier Bresson and

Monte Fresco. Here's Richard Branson wearing a pair of wings, like an out-take from an album promoshoot, or Matt Partridge's "Outdoor Laundrette", where a yard full of pallets carrying washing machines becomes the scene for

dling with the light meter and aperture. And was it worth it? Bluntly, no.

Better by far to stick to those plucky gypsies, as in James Lampard's "Gypsy Family, Appleby", another prizewinner. It's the very devil to get them to stay still long enough to complete the shot, but like Augustus John at the RA 80 years ago, you know you're on to a winner.

a bit of cheeky business. A The Royal Photographic Society naked man sticks his kit into a Annual International Print washer, and one thinks of all the Exhibition continues at the

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Madrid

The capital and geographical a lively, booming city that is

from the excellent shopping and night life, Madrid's main attraction is its outstanding art galleries. These include the Prado, the Reina Sofia, together they make one of the finest collections in the world. The beautiful medieval cities of Toledo, Avila and Segovia heart of Spain, Madrid is are all within 90 minutes of

ideal for a short break. Apart

INDEPENDENT

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Sex pests mean bad managers

THEY JUST don't get it. Those lawyers, police officers, naval commanders. They may not like it, but women are a fixture in the modern workplace. They are not going to disappear back to domestic servitude. The rhythms of their lives are going to have to be accommodated in the places where we work. But why is it necessary to use the future tense? Women did not arrive in previously all-male environments yesterday. Their coming had been presaged for years. Those senior lawyers, soldiers and police officers have had a long time to prepare. And they refused. It's one thing that so few women are getting through the ranks to replace them as commanding officers, judges and the like. It's quite another damning indictment that so many women still suffer daily from the unwelcome sexual attentions of the men they work with, including their bosses.

Sexual attraction happens in the workplace; but is not and never can be an excuse for abuse of power. If men are allowed to get away with it, that speaks of a massive failure of managerial process. Sexual harassment is an organisational pathology which affects shareholders, customers and the wider efficiency of the economic system. With each passing year, women will be making an ever greater contribution to gross national product, as well as taking a growing part in provision of such hard-to-measure services as defence and policing. Their contribution would be all the greater if the places they worked, in the private and public sectors, were well managed.

Good management begins with the strict enforcement of norms of courteous conduct and mutual respect. It does not condone a groping hand up a woman's skirt, let alone a pig-headed refusal to countenance women's movement up the promotion ladder. To victimise women who dare to complain of their treatment is even worse. That men and women working together will form attachments - "have relationships" in the clotted phrase of the age - is a truism. And irrelevant. Any manager who cannot distinguish assent from oppression and provide avenues for complaint is not worth

Yesterday Christopher Sutton-Mattocks stood down from the bench. several days after the Bar Council found him guilty of sexually harassing two pupils in his barrister's chambers. He may appeal. Judges, even parttimers, must be like Caesar's wife. And that is not for their own self-respect as practitioners of the law but for the sake of the legal system. Someone who cannot tell when his attentions are unwelcome can hardly be credited with forensic skill. let alone the sensitivity and imagination to conduct a court case. That firm statement by the Lord Chancellor's office against sexual harassment by judges is welcome.

Sadly the Sutton-Mattocks' case is not an isolated example of that special abuse of trust which occurs when a senior, a leader who may assess a subordinate's performance, uses his position in order to seek favours. This is managerial turpitude.

Yet it is with managers - partners in the case of accountants and lawyers - that the buck stops. There is no point hoping for some miraculous transformation of general attitudes in the workplace at large. Awareness training for employees only goes so far. Ultimately, harassment and the mistreatment of female colleagues, let alone women in junior positions, is a matter of managerial effectiveness. In public sector organisations there is no excuse. Police, fire-service, defence, local government, Whitehall: all are supposed to have been reformed. This kind of managerial failure implies that the much-vaunted innovations of recent years, supposedly soon to be celebrated in a Better Government White Paper, have not gone far enough. If police officers and other officials can treat women badly in the office or on the beat, what price fair policing and even-handed public service?

As for the private sector, clearly some managers (such as Mr Sutton-Mattocks) are all too ready to behave like "one of the boys". Customer pressure (from the clients of legal practices, for example) is a blunt instrument. There may thus be no alternative except a succession of brave women to speak up and bear the indignities and often the financial costs of taking action in industrial tribunals or using the creaky mechanisms of profes-

Mean city streets to let



KIRKLEES COUNCIL in West Yorkshire is organising bus tours around two of its "hard-to-let" housing estates to try to drum up the interest of would-be tenants. As a marketing ploy it's imaginative. Perhaps next time the estates could be asked to put on a display of joy-riding followed by a crotchet exhibition by the local (single) mothers' union. Tourism might not work, however, on those estates where a police escort and outriders are needed to stop the youth having the tyres off your vehicle in five seconds.

And yet maybe Kirklees' example does have something to offer other public services. Most could be marketed much more effectively. Wouldn't it be refreshing - however unlikely it may be - to have the National Health Service inviting the public in to sample food prepared in hospital kitchens or test the salubrious (and empty!) waiting-rooms in their accident and emergency departments. It's true that some schools do now open their doors to would-be parents, just as some nicks, fire stations and refuse disposal plants have open days in order to impress the public with their efficiency. Some services, however, are designed to repel. It would not do to arrange scenic tours round Parkhurst or Durham jails - unless visitors emerged vowing never to darken their doors again.



On the road: this image is one of a collection of portraits of horse-drawn travellers and gypsy families by James Lampard. They are on show from today till It April at Contact: Anonymous Associates, 01225 337729 f.Stop Media Station, Green Park Station, Bath

Countryside myth

IT IS disturbing to see the Countryside March being taken seriously by the Government. The Prime Minister has laid great stress upon his project of modernisation: of the Labour Party, and now of the country. Most of the disparate protesters grouped around the demonstration seek to uphold the most backwardlooking of social relations.

In many rural areas the social conesion essential to the maintenance of shops and services is undermined by people who are absent in towns during the day. House prices soar, and work in the countryside are driven further to the social margins. Meanwhile many town centres are depleted because too many of those who work in indeed tell pollsters that they pertowns (especially the wealthy ones) sonally dislike hunting. Yet I suspect do not live as part of the communi- that, if asked, they would go on to ties which provide their employment. The shuttling between rural home and urban work helps to dog

roads and contributes to pollution. suggested within government, to subsidise petrol for rural dwellers. That will simply be a form of regressive taxation whereby the urban poor subsidise the maintenance of the country". A better solution would be tax incentives for those who live close to their place of work.

This is a predominantly urban society which culturally subscribes to the view that non-metropolitan urban life is always second-best and rural life always preferable. That has to change. We are pulling down tower blocks which in other countries would be desirable homes, and building miserable and alienating suburbs ou greenfield sites because of the grip of a mythical pastoralism on our imaginations.

The whingeing of the country movement proposes nothing that will modernise Britain and revitalise our society. The best thing they could do would be to support an urban movement to transform our towns. YASMIN ALI

DISTURBED and perplexed by the number of people joining the Countryside March, opponents of hunt-

Preston, Lancashire

LETTERS

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

ing are desperately accusing the hunters of hijacking legitimate rural concerns. This is profoundly un-

I don't hunt, but I am clear about my own motives for making the long journey from Northumberland to London. Hunting is the cultural tradition of a decent minority group, those who actually need to live and and the Bill to ban it symbolises the populist bigotry of this government, with its rampant "bannitis".

Many people in rural areas may say that they do not wish to impose their views on others. This tolerance of country traditions may be the real difference between rural and urban The solution is not, as has been attitudes to hunting, and it has a broader significance. The fundamental issue is personal freedom. ALASDAIR MITCHELL Stocksfield, Northumberland

a middle-class dream of "a home in THE PRIME MINISTER, seeking to reconcile his One Nation policy with the cocktail of conflicting causes represented by the Countryside March, could start by devolving the hunting issue. This clash of individual conscience and rural tradition is surely best fought out at local government level.

> Westminster politicians could then concentrate on ensuring that the nation as a whole benefited from future subsidies paid to farmers. If the public wants to retain small fields and their hedges, which, as Roger Stratton (letter, 28 February) implies, are a handicap in competing with world market prices, then switch the arable aid Mr Stratton presumably now gets for his wheatfields into hedging grants. Likewise, set-aside and even extensification payments, which we currently receive for keeping livestock at lower stocking rates, could be tied to public access to those fields on a farm claiming them.

JOHN ETRICKS

House of Commons London SW1

on this basis.

SO, BBC School Radio has been axed? Or so said Sally Williams's article on children's radio (Media, 23 February). We were more than a touch surprised. This year we are transmitting 260 hours of programmes for schools on Radio 3,

tion's radio output. It's certainly not Blowing the whistle the verdict of the teachers and children who listen to it. Andiences are

increasing.

London W12

Lingua franca

ALAN LAMBERT

Commissioning Editor, BBC

GEOFF MARSHALL-TAYLOR

Executive Producer, BBC Education

YOUR report on linguistic confusion

As you point out, national rivalry

Ages. Modern technological terms

would pose no problem, since most

of these are derived from Latin or

Greek. The use of Latin would also

put an end to the creeping Anglici-

sation of other languages which is a

source of resentment to our European

neighbours, particularly the French.

YOU SAY that if the succession had

gone to the eldest child, irrespective

of gender, Mary Tudor would have

succeeded Henry VIII (born in

1491) ("Equality at last for royal

king. The throne would have gone

to his elder sister Margaret Tudor

(born 1489), who married James IV

of Scotland. Their granddaughter

No. Henry would not have been

daughters", 28 February).

was Mary, Queen of Scots.

Chichester, West Sussex

ROGER WORDSWORTH

Henry the Forgotten

Kirkham, Lancashire

THERE ARE a couple of points I would like to take up following the coverage you have given (23, 25 February) to my Public Interest Disclo-

First, for the very reasons Dr Slapper sets out in his letter, the law will provide for reinstatement. Indeed, because whistle-blowers are so vulnerable, the Government has agreed to extend to them the special provisions for reinstatement pending the

full hearing. My own view, however, is that the a problem which in the short term most effective way to protect whiscan only get worse. In the long tle-blowers and to promote the public interest is to ensure that to adopt a common European secunscrupulous employers have to ond language, which could be taught compensate any public-spirited em- to all European schoolchildren from ployee they victimise for his actual an early age. losses. As this view is shared by the will preclude the adoption of any CBL, the TUC and all other key interests, I am increasingly confident modern language. The logical candidate is Latin, which was in fact used that the Government will accept the sense in this approach and legislate for this very purpose in the Middle

Finally, if any reader is concerned about fraud, public danger or other serious malpractice and is unsure whether to blow the whistle or stay silent, I urge them to contact Public Concern at Work (0171 404 6609) for free legal advice. RICHARD SHEPHERD MP (Aldridge Brownhills, C)

BBC for schools

backed up by a popular cassette service for hard-pressed teachers. And we don't intend to axe anything. was Mary, Queen of "Dry and formal" may be Sally SHEILA M LYONS

Williams's verdict on BBC Educa-

THE WAY in which the participation of children in the National Lottery is being dealt with lacks credibility. ("Camelot told: stop sales to children", 27 February).

Lottery children

Although it is illegal for children to buy tickets, they have been involved in the promotion of the lottery, from its inception. Thus, children appeared in the initial television advertisements and were in the studio audience of the live draw, which was and still is broadcast before the 9pm watershed. Not surprisingly, audience research showed 4. that the live draw is one of the most popular programmes with children.

In 1995, the National Council on Gambling complained to the Broadcasting Standards Council about in Brussels (28 February) highlights this situation. Attention was drawn to a survey I conducted in an innercity school which was reported in the British Medical Journal. This showed that nearly two-thirds of children admitted to purchasing lottery tickets. The National Heritage Department. Oflot and the BBC chose to dismiss

> the significance of the points raised. There is now a need for fundamental changes in the manner the lottery is promoted. As a first step, the proposed new television scratchcard show should be cancelled. Dr E MORAN

Consultant Psychiatrist Chairman, The National Council on Gambling London N14

at Bathos w

Chess education

KIRSAN ILYUMZHINOV may be labelled eccentric ("Russia's black knight makes a global move", 25 February), but he is right about chess helping the child's intellectual development. As a coach I teach chess to groups and one-to-one, and I am convinced that it deserves equal status in education with maths and

music. Young offenders should be given chess tuition. It would teach them to be aware of the consequences of their actions, and channel their aggression into a mind sport. TONY BLADES Birkenhead, Merscvside

John Major gives serious thought to resigning on a point of principle



AS I revealed yesterday, I have been back the advance when inflation has reworking with John Major on his book of memoirs for HarperCollins (tentatively entitled Major Hold-Up Ahead) so when I heard that all sorts of writers were thinking of leaving the Murdoch firm I was very anxious in case John Major should join the rush and leave me short of pocket

So you can imagine how relieved I was when he rang me back yesterday to discuss the matter.

"If I refuse to do the book for Harper-Collins," he said, "will I have to hand the advance back?7

"Yes, I'm afraid so."

"That is quite normal?"

"Well, it's not quite normal. What usually happens is that a writer gets an advance for doing a book, fails to do the book over a period of ten years and finally pays

duced it to a much smaller sum. However, you won't get much moral kudos for doing that."

"I am not a rich man," said the ex-prime minister.

When people say that, they usually mean they are short of money. "Look," I said, "even if you have to hand the money back to HarperCollins,

you can get it back by placing the book with another publisher." "Do you think any other publisher will want the book?"

"I am sure they will," I said. When people say that, they usually mean the exact opposite. Mr Major sighed audibly. If you're going to sigh, sigh au-

dibly, I always say.
"I sometimes wonder if people really want to read my story. After all, there is

nothing quite so dead as the immediate

This startled me. It was the nearest to an epigram I had ever heard Mr Major

"Oh, but people always want to read eye-witness accounts of history, sir! Think of Harold Wilson's book, The Governance of Britain. Think of Margaret Thatcher's book, The Governess of Britain..."

I paused for a laugh. All I got was another sigh:

"Yes, but nobody ever read those," he said. "I think I'll just pack it in. What's the point of producing another portentous, unread self-justifying tome?"

"To make money?" There was another sigh, or perhaps the same sigh again.

"Tell you what." I said, "if you want to

pack it in, now is the best time to do it. You don't have to say that you've lost heart. Just say it's in protest against Rupert Murdoch's trashing of Chris Patten's book." There was a silence.

"The last time you spoke out in public was to call Saddam Hussein a dangerous psychopath. You could use the same speech again about Mr Murdoch.

"Isn't that going a bit far? Saddam Hussein is a power-mad tyrant who ruthlessly crushes anyone who tries to disagree with

"So where's the problem? There was another silence.

"Look," I said, "Murdoch sees everything in terms of self-advancement. At an age when most people would be pottering around the garden, he still wants to rule the world. He can't bear to die before he

has established himself as a major player in every country, which is why he is now planning the takeover of China. When he has done that, he will feel a bit better about dying. No, I tell a lie. I expect Rupert Murdoch sees death as another business opportunity. At this very moment, I wouldn't be surprised if he is making plans to establish footholds in heaven and hell. Can't you just see Rupert Murdoch in his last years making a takeover bid for the News of the Underworld, an ailing paper based in hell which would make a springboard for his posthumous media expansion...?"

There was a final silence, or maybe the same silence all over again.

"If I resign from HarperCollins," said John Major, "I'd quite like you to write my resignation speech."

I think I'm back with a job again.

sanctions

DONALD MACINTYRE Don't trust the detractors. Some ministers become unpopular but that does not mean they have

Call me unfashionable, but

Harriet deserves an even break

WHO'S UP? Who's down? The great, burning question of British political gossip since records began, fills the pages of every diarist from Chips Channon through Dick Crossman to Alan Clark. The basis for the answer is something intangible, a combination of the press coverage minister X gets, the last thing anyone heard, or says they heard, the Prime Minister remark about him or hex, some wispy, inexplicable sense the colleagues have of whether promotion, demotion or a sideways move beckons.

been doing a bad job

Judged by such deeply unscientific criteria, Harriet Harman isn't exactly up. The latest charge against her is that she has been leaking budget information - a charge which can be levelled more widely than at Ms Harman. The Treasury itself has adopted a rather more flexible attitude to budget purdah than in the past. Last week, two reports did indeed appear about budget provisions which she must have known about, since they affected her own departmental responsibilities.

The first affected lone parents, subject of the government's most outstanding presentational and political debacle to date. It said that the child premium on income support would be increased by a level high enough to offset the cuts in lone parents' benefit forced through a deeply rejuctant House of Commons late last year. This was an entirely welcome boost for poor lone parents but one which also kept intact the principle that henceforth the same child benefit would be paid to lone parents as to married couples. The second said that there would be a big increase in child care support for those earning less than around £20,000 a year - on a bigger scale than expected and possibly worth as much as £1bn. This was also welcome, not least to this newspaper ; for a government seeking to reform welfare which has been campaigning for an increase in child care support. Ms Harman was not, it is pretty clear after detailed enquiries, the source of the first report. She certainly appears to have talked in general terms to journalists about plans to boost child care - including openly in front of the Select Committee last Wednesday. - though she was not the source of the first newspaper to discover the figures involved

But there is also a second question, obvious from the above to all except politicians and journalists, which is how much all this matters - however annoying it is to the presentation control-freaks who inhabit every corner of the government? First, Ms Harman

hasn't suddenly discovered a sudden and new interest in child care when she needs to. Speaking in the Commons last Friday Malcolm Chisholm - who has no reason whatever to suck up to Ms Harman since he resigned as a social security minister in protest against cuts in lone parents benefit - paid a handsome tribute to her for being passionate about the subject since she came into the Commons in 1983 and said the government's National Childcare Strategy - of which this month's budget provisions will be a central part -would be a "lasting monument to her". Women - in every age group including pensioners - and children are those on whom poverty falls disproportionately. She has articulated this fact consistently. And she has endeavoured - with an admittedly co-operative Chancellor - to ensure that

the problem is addressed in the budget. It's a commonplace that Ms Harman isn't exactly popular in her party. Some of it is her fault. (She must bear her share of the blame for both the execution and the presentation of the lone parents' decision) But some of it isn't. As Gordon Brown's Shadow Chief Secretary she was obliged to tour the offices of her colleagues warning them that cherished spending commitments would have to be ditched. And as Shadow Employment Secretary, she did a lot first to broaden the consensus for a national minimum wage high enough to make a difference but not high enough to send unemployment soaring again. But she did not make many friends among party fundamentalists, or in the unions, for her steadfast refusal to hint at figures at the higher, £4 per hour plus, end of the spectrum. That was nothing compared with her decision to send her second son to a grammar school. It infuriated many people in the Labour Party - including Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's Press Secretary - who thought it was a betrayal of Labour's commitment to comprehensive education. And it infuriated many more who had made their own choice of school with more attention to political orthodoxy than to what they might, as private citizens, have judged the best interests of their children. Finally she annoyed many male Labour MPs by backing women's quotas - an irony in view of the fact that she has now been accused of trying to improve her standing in the Labour hierarchy by promoting women's issues. And this was all before she carried the can for what was, when all is said and done, a collective decision made jointly with the Treasury to cut lone parents' benefit. And before she was summoned to No 10 and personally reprimanded by the Prime Minister for floating via the use of the term "affluence tests" the notion that the some benefits were still being wasted on those who didn't need them. This may have been presentationally unwise at the time it would have been incredible if the government wasn't testing the validity of universal benefits to destruction. Moreover Ms Harman also has some qualities which tend to be overlooked. She is tough. She is a welfare reform believer in a Cabinet which is less full of hard edged modernisers than it is sometimes assumed. Her relations with her Minister of State Frank Field - after a wholly disastrous start appeared to have improved significantly to the credit of both of them. Of course Gordon Brown remains the unchallenged architect of what now promises to be a budget both redistributive and fiscally prudent. But she has played her part. It isn't fashionable to say so,

The BBC is a public service. And that means not faking integrity

We pay our licence fee for television which

serves the whole audience and takes risks. Andreas Whittam-Smith says. But the accountants see things differently

NO BBC person gives a speech without mentioning public service at least a dozen times. At a conference last week, the director of policy, Patricia Hodgson, didn't entitle her address "The BBC in the Digital Age" but "Public Service

Broadcasting in the Digital Age". Yet an accumulation of incidents is beginning to make me wonder whether the public service ethos of the BBC is less pervasive than it appears. For example there is the recent decision to move daily coverage of Parliament into what Gerald Kaufman has aptly called "the ghetto of long wave radio".

According to a leaked report, an edition of The Rantzen Report is due to be criticised later this week by the Broadcasting Standards Commission as "inaccurate, misleading and unfair". And now we are arguing about whether flyon-the-wall documentaries are sometimes faked. As far as the BBC's The Driving School is concerned a spokesman said: "Some of it was faked. It was a light-hearted documentary. But the integrity was still there". Is this possible: fake and integrity in the same product?

Of all the many things which comprise public service broadcasting, reporting Parliament is not the least important, particularly as newspapers, regrettably, have substantially reduced their coverage. Is Yesterday in Parliament intrinsically dull? I don't think it is, though doubtless an inspired editor could still improve it. The raw material is more than adequate for the making a good programme.

So far as criticism of The Rantzen Report's allegations about a hospital are concerned, I am less bothered about the rights and wrongs of the case than I am about the BBC's own investigation into complaints about the programme. The Complaints Unit found "minor inaccuracies" and "clear unfairness". None-theless, no apology was made. As a result, if the Broadcasting Standards Commission does indeed make trenchant criticisms, we shall be left wondering whether the BBC's internal inquiries are more concerned with shielding the corporation than rectifying errors.

However I think that the BBC's stars, seeing a steady trickle of such incidents, take aim at the wrong target. The other day Kate Adie, like many others, put the blame on management style. She says that the BBC has developed a huge division between the people who run the corporation and those who make the programmes. She went on: "It has become more acute in the past decade at the BBC because there is undoubtedly now a management which is a reflection of modern business methods." Certainly



Kate Adie: BBC's stars are aiming at the wrong target

there is a curious management-speak, of which Ms Adie says she is ashamed. I saw a BBC recruitment advertisement recently which referred to all 500 qualified accounting staff as being "members of the Finance family".

The fact is that the division which Kate Adie describes exists in most institutions. There is always a gulf of understanding and temperament between the creators of a product and those concerned with administration. The Royal Opera House has provided eloquent evidence of this fissure. Probably, to take a completely different example, the people designing aircraft engines at Rolls-Royce feel similarly frustrated. It is an inevitable tension which is by no means always damaging.

Of course the BBC very well understands the public interest. A paper,

will increasingly gravitate towards a narrow range of programmes, favouring light entertainment, long-running serials, sport and niche services, despite having a greater number of channels. In contrast, the paper argues, the job of the public service broadcaster in these circumstances is to serve the whole audience, not just those parts which are commercially attractive, to make programmes which the market will never provide and, by setting standards and taking risks, limit any tendency among commercial broadcasters to focus on the lowest common denominator. In other words, the BBC is to be the sheet anchor of the broad-

that the burgeoning commercial sector

casting system. That is all very well. But it is not the only matter weighing on the corporate "The BBC's Ten year Vision", predicts mind. From the outside, the BBC ap-

pears as the most fortunately placed exrporation in the country. It knows exactly what its revenue will be this year, next year and the year afterwards. Whether it performs badly or not, the licence fee will continue to roll in. Added to which, it has dominating shares of most of its markets. By contrast. Rupert Murdoch's operation looks as dangerous as trying to fly non-stop round the world by balloon. But that is not how the future is seen within the citadel. The BBC's nightmare is that one day it might lose the licence fee or see its value drastically reduced. As it is, the BBC can see that the licence fee is unlikely to grow as quickly as its rivals' advertising revenues or the fees from subscription and pay-TV. That is why the corporation has to hack away at its cost structure, and the result is that Ms Adie feels herself dominated by management types.

As it celebrates its 75th anniversary, the Corporation feels itself on the retreat. For its first 50 years it maintained its market shares at 100 per cent. Then in the 1950s, it lost its television monopoly, in the 1970s competitors came into local radio and finally in the 1990s the monopoly of national radio went. As a result, considerations of public service are not always, or even generally, the main focus.

The BBC is just as concerned as any commercial broadcaster with attracting the largest possible audience. It does not see how it can continue to justify the licence fee without providing popular services which most people want to watch. If the market generally is dumbing down, then the BBC will dumb down. If the most entertaining fly-on-the-wall documentaries require a little contriving or a bit of cheating, then that is what will be done. If parliamentary news appears boring, then it can no longer be allowed to occupy a prominent position.

The corporation then, is subject to two commandments which are often in competition with each other - secure the public interest, and keep up the numbers. This is where the dangerous tension lies, rather than between managers and creative people. Actually the numbers are looking good. In spite of cable and satellite, BBC television's share of all viewing has held steady at around 42 per cent to 43 per cent.

This is the task for the governors. In the annual report, these distinguished people outline a range of duties which they have assumed. To me, their job is simply described. It is to arbitrate between management's understandable desire to retain high market shares in the various broadcasting markets the BBC serves and the requirements of public service, relatively unpopular as these may sometimes be. Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture, has quickly grasped the danger. He said last month that he wanted to establish formal meetings with the governors at least twice a year so that he could ensure that the corporation was sticking to the terms of its Royal Charter. "If it is forgetting that it is a public service broadcaster, then it is forgetting its raison d'être," he said.

I thought Bathos was a cut-price holiday destination



ANNE **MCELVOY**

Companies are no longer content with selling us things: they want us to love them for it

BUSINESSES have their own small carriers which have libgrammar: they decline verbs irregularly, "I cut prices out of generosity towards the customer/ You undercut me because you are greedy/He/she/it

must do something about it." The cut-price carrier easyJet has served a writ against British Airways, claiming that it is cross-subsidising Go, its new low-price airline and that the tactic is intended to put casy-Jet out of business.

Cross-subsidy is the established company's weapon against the innovative talents of the newcomer. The difficulty in defining where it is illegal does not detract from the frustration we feel when big business birds of prey swoop on smaller and nimbler rivals So the anger of

erated travellers from British Airways' expense-account fare structures is understandable.

but she deserves her share of the credit too.

Under this kind of pressure, companies are increasingly inclined to throw themselves on the mercy of the public and present their plight as a moral crusade. "Hey," says someone in the PR nether regions, "we're the little guy. Our customers are the little guys. We're all in this together. Like Ben and Jerry

This smuggly view of capitalism has led easyJet to publish bathetic full-page newspaper ads reproducing letters from outraged passengers. (Their outrage was nourished by the prospect of winning free tickets, which de-gilts the giu-

always moaning about big business forcing the little man out of business ... " A (presumably fully grown) Mr Shattock from Peterborough is less sophisticated: "What's the difference

between a BA flight and a Go

flight? One screws customers while the other screws com-At this point, I am overcome by a sudden desire never to fly easy.let again. It is a fine line between companies informing their customers why they feel threatened by cross-subsidy and them turning into undignified whingers. The Independent has made its case against

predatory pricing in the face of

cost-cutting by Rupert Mur-

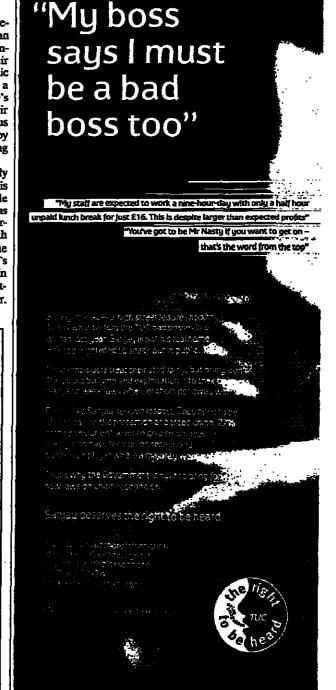
gerbread a little.) Eight year-old doch. But enterprises should be leave on time, we don't be-Roseanna writes, "My daddy is wary of mistaking the loyalty grudge it. Besides, there is an customers bear a business which delivers a good product at a sound price for the notion that they should love the company like a brother.

Not that easyJet is alone in trying to reinvent the relation between producer and customer as an affair of the heart. The weather is brought to you by Powergen," murmurs a voice after the evening news. To which we're supposed to respond, "That's nice of them". rather than enquiring too closely into the fatness of their ex-

But consumers are not fools. We know that easyJet is in business to make a profit. If the prices are low and the planes

iron law which states that companies which try to garb their commercial aims in altruistic language invariably come a cropper. Ben and Jerry's promise that a brand of their ice-cream helped indigenous rainforest workers was met by protests that it wasn't helping them enough.

Rupert Murdoch rashly promised that exposure to his Star TV channel would topple dictatorships. Since then, he has had to expend a lot of effort correcting this impression with the Chinese. The result is the cancellation of Chris Patten's memoirs. A little morality in business goes a long way. A little moralising goes even further.



FORGET the Baby Boom; get ready for the Pop Babies. The Grammy success of Bob Dylan's son Jakob looks like just the beginning for the next gencration of rock star children.

No doubt you've heard of Julian Lennon and, now, Jakob Dylan. But did you know that Sean Lennon, 22, the only son of John and Yoko, has

an album be-

Sean Lennon

Adam Cohen, the 25-year-old son of the melancholic Canadian poet/crooner Leonard Cohen, has an album called - wait for it - Cr. Ophelia coming out on Columbia? Meanwhile, Shana Morrison, 27-year-old daughter of Van, has recorded a demo with her group.

Caledonia that is making the rounds in the States.

Other aspiring star offspring include Rufus Wainwright, 23, son of Loudon Wainwright III; Rolan Bolan, 22, son of Marc Bolan; Chris Everly, 23, Phil Everly's boy; and Elijah Blue Allman, 20, the boy wonder of Gregg Allman and Cher, who plays mean goth rock. Let's give the last word to Chris Stills, 23, son of Stephen Stills, who recently reported, "When I told my dad what I wanted to do, he said What, are you kidding me? Please go to college."

THE FIRST openly homosexual aming released in bassadorial nomination in American history is bogged down in Congress. May? Or that James Hormel is the scion of the huge US meat-packing company that makes Spam. He is also an outspoken gay activist and a generous philanthropist. He has been nominated by President Clinton to be ambassador



present his lover as his "ambassadorial spouse". But conservative senators are blocking the nomination, ting that Hormel may try to promote homosexuality as the US ambassadoz. Hormel vigorously denies that he will promote anything but the best interests of his country.

In California to attend daughter Cheisea's "Tarents' Day" at Stanford, Clinton defended his nominee. "The to Luxumbourg after promising not to only question the United States

Senate should ask, and there is only one answer, is will be or will be not be a good ambassador."

Pandora likewise only has one question. What on earth is happening in dreary old Luxembourg? Obviously James Hormel knows something or he wouldn't be so keen to camp out there.

THIS week's UK Press Gazette' offers vivid coverage of the jailing of two British paparazzi in Los Angeles. The story about Giles Harrison and Andrew O'Brien, convicted of harassing Arnold Schwarzenegger, appears on page four. Followed, on page 18, by an advertisement placed by their employer Splash, the British tabloid bureau in LA, seeking new photographers. Its irresistible headline? "Come work in the sun."

Presumably L.4 County Jail provides free towels, but applicants would be wise to bring their own tanning oil. And don't forget the bail money.

MIKE BLOOMBERG was taking no chances. The financial data tycoon who sponsored the Serpentine Gallery's gala reopening last week wanted the occasion to be as glittering and celebrity-filled as possible.

So he engaged - who else? -Aurėlia Cecil, the glamorous luxury goods PR (clients: Versace, Daphne's) who is Prince Andrew's new flame. Talent like this doesn't come cheap. Aurelia's fee for producing a flood of A-list guests was £10,000.

ATTENTION all you hip cats and chicks who were on the scene back in the Swinging Sixtles. Like, it's time for a reality check. Take a look at the latest issue of Saga. Who's the covergirl on Britain's leading journal for the "Senior Set"? Yes, it's Twiggy and she's looking absolutely fab.

Pandora

Sir Sam Curran

SAM CURRAN was one of the the first from those families ever role models for those of us who tor of the cloud chamber, and great Scots of the 20th century 10 get near higher education -- in the tradition of the heroes and did to their enormous benof the 18th-century Scottish efit. He told me that no "ceilenlichtenment.

He was the dynamo behind the creation of the hugely successful University of Strathclyde, the child of the Royal College of Science and Technology in Glasgow which had trained many of the great engineers and scientists of the 19th

my young constituents got into goal. deep trouble at the Royal College. An MP's letter to the Principal produced a phone call at 8.30 the following morning: "Can you come and see me?" Within minutes of entering the room. I sensed that I was in the presence of one of the most effective, superbly well-informed, and humane academic heavyweights.

His eyes twinkling behind his light horn-rimmed spectacles. Sam Curren wanted to do his utmost for two first-year students good opinion of our policy I refrom working-class families.

ing" should be placed on numbers of students in higher education. He held the passionate belief that every young person who wanted to try higher education should be given a chance, and his messionic belief in Strathclyde University gave practical implementation to and first half of the 20th century. that belief and was a vehicle for In the spring of 1963, two of carrying out what was a noble As soon as our business was

> finished in relation to my erring constituents, it became obvious that the reason for the telephone call and the early summons to meet him was that he saw the chance of recruiting a young Scottish Member of Parliament to the cause and ideals of technical education as he saw Harold Wilson told me a year later, "Sam is one of the people in higher education whose

believed in the white heat of the . Harry Jones, father of Dame technological revolution.

Sam Curran was born one of Crowe, from Ballymena, Co Antrim. The other, Robert Curran, was for 20 years Leith Professor of Pathology at Birmingham University. The Currans moved to Lanarkshire and Sam became dux (head boy) of long championing of the importance of science and maths teachers in school he ascribed to his own good fortune of being superbly taught by dedicated teachers at Wishaw.

First class bonours in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy (physics) led to a PhD at St In 1944 Curran was sent to John's College, Cambridge, of which he was to become an honorary fellow 30 years later. At them. As Prime Minister, the Cavendish Laboratory he the development of what was to had the good fortune not only to have Lord Rutherford as his head of department but to work closely under C.T.R. Wilson. ally covet." He was one of the Nobel prizewinner and inven- for measuring radio activity.

Angela Rumbold MP.

On the outbreak of the Secthe two remarkable sons of ond World War Curran went to John Curran, a Fifer, and Sarah the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough. He worked on the development of long-range centimetre radar and the proximity fuse. Among his colleagues was Joan Strothers, whom he had known at Cambridge and who was an Wishaw High School. His life-expert on the scattering of strips of tin foil in the air with the result that enemy radar was disrunted. It was called "Operation Window". Curran married Joan Strothers in November 1940. It was to be a marriage of 57 outstandingly happy years. She was pivotal to his success as a scientist and as a vice-chancellor.

> the Radiation Laboratory in Berkeley, California, to work on become the atomic bomb. While working for the Manhattan Project he invented the Scintillation Counter, an instrument

This achievement was greatly praised by his old mentor C.T.R. Wilson, than whom no man was in a better position to judge.

Curran returned to the Physics department of Glasgow University at the special request of Professor Philip Dee, one of his former senior colleagues in the Cavendish and by that time Professor of Natural Philosophy at Glasgow.

He worked at Harwell from 1955 to 1958 and then became chief scientist of the Atomic

Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston for a year. He told me that he had pangs of conscience when he saw the pictures and heard the songs of the Aldermaston marchers and that this determined in part his decision to return to Glasgow as Principal of the Royal College of Science and Technology. I won't say that he felt guilty but after talking to his great friend Sir William Penney he thought he shared some responsibility for a substantial part of the work on the hydrogen bomb.

Much later in life he told me at a Strathclyde dinner, "I didn't agonise to the extent that Sir James Chadwick [isolator of the neutron) agonised over his part in making Hiroshima and Nagasaki possible. But I did wonder where the ultimate results of my work and that of my colleagues would lead."

Paying tribute to Curran. Professor Sir John Arbuthnott, the present distinguished Principal of Strathclyde, said: "Curran transformed the Royal

renowned institution - into a charity concerned with the menuniversity. Throughout his tally handicapped. Hugh Stewmany years as Principal, he never lost sight of the ideals of out that it was in recognition of Strathchyde's founder, John Anderson, and insisted that the university should usefully serve society in all its manifestations.

"Sir Sam insisted that its graduates should be trained and educated men and women who would respond to industry and their professions' changing circumstances. He was a man of vision and the seeds of Strathelyde's current success in commercialising its research activities were sown by him back in the Sixties and Seventies."

Curran had many wider interests. He was a member of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, 1962-65, of the Science Research Council, 1965-68, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Secretary of State for Scotland, 1967-77, and Honorary President of the Scottish Polish Cultural Association. His links with the Polish community were a part of his life,

College - itself a internationally as was his work for Enable, a art, its Deputy Director, pointed his efforts for those with learning disabilities that Enable's office and leisure facilities have

been named Curran House. "Curran had a powerful combination of pragmatism. passion and vision," says Sir William Stewart, formerly the Government's Chief Scientific Adviser, "Scotland is much the ;) poorer for his passing."

Tam Dalyell

acifiCori actern 51 th £4.35

"Vine told

Cartner

Samuel Crowe Curran, physicist and university administrator: born Bal-Immena, Co Antrim 23 May 1912; FRSE 1947; FRS 1953; Principal, Roy-. at College of Science and Technology, Glasgow 1959-64; Chairman, Advisory Committee on Medical Research 1962-75; Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Stratholyde University 1964-80; Chief Scientific Adviser to the Secretary of State for Scotland 1967-77; Kt 1970; married 1940 Joan Strathers (three sons, one daughter); died Glasgow 15 February 1998.

Todd Duncan

IN LATE 1934 George Gershwin, in the process of creating his masterwork. Porgy and Bess. wrote to the librettist DuBose Heyward:

Here is an exciting bit of news. I heard about a man singer who teaches music in Washington and arranged for him to come and sing for me. In my opinion he is the closest to a coloured Tibbett I have ever heard. He is about six foot tall and very well proportioned with a rich, booming voice. He would make a superb Crown and, I think, just as good a Porgy.

The composer had in fact found his Porgy. Gershwin had originally been so taken with the idea of starring Lawrence Tibbett, then at the height of his fame as a baritone at the Metropolitan Opera House, that he had considered having Tibbett perform in blackface, but his discovery of Duncan solved all problems. Duncan, like his Bess (Anne Brown) and the rest of the opera's cast, was not experienced on the operatic stage but, the lyricist Ira Gershwin later said. "brought a humour and pathos to the role which helped considerably to humanise Porgy, making him dignified but not maudlin".

For his part, Duncan was not sure that he wanted to sing Gershwin. "I was a bit of a stuffed shirt," he stated later, "and thought of George Gershwin as being Tin Pan Alley and something beneath me."

He was born Robert Todd Duncan in 1903 in Danville. Kentucky, and attended Butler University and the College of Music and Fine Arts in Indianapolis, receiving a master's degree in voice from Columbia University, In 1929 he went to New York to study, becoming a Professor of Voice at Howard University in Washington DC in River'."

It was while singing the role of Alfio in an all-black production of Cavalleria Rusticana at the Meeca Temple on 55th Street, New York, that he was heard by the music critic Olin Downes, who recommended him to Gershwin. At his audition he sang a little-known Ital-



Duncan: 'I was in heaven . . . I have worked on my art for years waiting for this'

When Gershwin said to him, "Will you be my Porgy?" the open to the serious Negro wary Duncan replied, "I don't artists." know. I'd have to hear your music." When George and Ira later performed their Porgy songs for Duncan be had no doubts. "I was in heaven," he said. this new idiom - it was some-

singer," said Gershwin, "had weeping." He wrote in a letter sung spirituals or 'Old Man to Gershwin, "I have seriously worked on my art for years waiting for a serious work like this,

Directed by Rouben Mamoulian, Porgy and Bess opened on 10 October 1935 in New York and had a mixed reception - while drama critics generally "Those beautiful melodies in praised the piece, music critics were worried about its hybrid

ian aria by Secchi. "Lungi Dal thing I had never heard. By the nature and the presence of Caro Bene", which impressed time they got to Porgy's final hit tunes which they felt comthe composer. Every other song I'm On My Way I was promised its position as an opera. It ran for a modest 134 performanecs. When it was revived in 1942, again with Duncan and Browne as leads, audiences had come to know many of its great songs and with recitatives cut and a smaller production it was a hit, running for 35 weeks and touring

successfully. In between these productions. Duncan had starred in London opposite Edna Best in February 1998,

the thriller The Sun Never Sets. and in 1941, at the request of the director Mamoulian, he had played the Lord's Messenger, sent to earth to encourage the reformation of the gambler "Little Joe", in the Vernon Duke/John Latouche hit Cabin in the Sky. Four years later Duncan became the first black artist to appear with the New York City Opera when he sang the role of Tonio in

Pagliacci.

When Alan Paton's poetic novel set in South Africa, Cry the Beloved Country, was turned into a Broadway musical, Lost in the Stars, by Kurt Weill and Maxwell Anderson in 1949 (with Mamoulian again as director), Duncan starred as the preacher who forms a bond with the father of a young white liberal who has been killed by the preacher's son. Though the static and harrowing show was not commercially successful, Duncan's songs included the popular title number and the critic Robert Garland wrote: "The beauty and simplicity of Cry the Beloved Country infrequently comes through. Only Todd Duncan seems to sense the novel's artful artiessness."

The show was Duncan's last, but in the 1955 film Unchained he played the inmate of a minimum security prison and introduced the hit song "Unchained Melody", which was nominated for an Academy Award.

Duncan continued to teach at Howard University and as a concert singer performed arias and Lieder in more than 2,000 performances in 56 countries. Married since 1934 to Gladys Jackson, a teacher, he continued to give singing lessons at his home in Washington until recently.

Tom Vallance

Robert Todd Duncan, singer: born Danville, Kentucky 12 February 1903; married 1934 Gladys Jackson (one son); died Washington DC 28

Judge Rolv Ryssdal

ROLV RYSSDAL President of the European Court of Human Rights from 1985 until his death, was an outstanding individual who made exceptional contributions to justice. A jurist of distinction occupying the highest domestic and international offices, Ryssdal remained a pleasant, unassuming and charming person without any pomposity.

Ryssdal started judicial work as a junior district judge in Norway in 1940. A judge by day, by night he played an active role in the Norwegian resistance to Nazi occupation, which led to his being detained from December 1943 until his country was liberated. The experience of living under totalitarianism. enduring deep injustice and imprisonment, he spoke little about; but it was reflected in his later judgments and speeches about the purpose of the European Convention on Human Rights. After the Second World

War, Ryssdal had a meteoric legal career, working successively for the state and as an advocate in private practice, culminating in serving in the key administrative role as Secretary General in the Ministry of Justice. In 1969, he became Chief Justice of Norway's Supreme Court, a post he held for some 15 years. In 1973, he first became a Judge of the European Court of Human Rights. At that time the court had few cases, averaging around one a year; just 17 rulings had been delivered when he joined the court. In 1979, his fellow judges elected him Vice-President of the court and in 1985 he was

elected its President. The volume of cases before the court increased massively during the 25 years Ryssdal served as Judge and particularly during his presidency. By his death some 733 judgments had been delivered, some 632

when he was President. At a ceremony to honour his memory last week, Rudolf Bernhardt, Vice-President of the court, did not exaggerate in describing Roly Ryssdal's posi-



Ryssdal: a position unique in international court history

tion as unique in the history of fundamental rights themselves. any international court and in stating, "Rarely can one man don 18 months ago, Ryssdal anhave played such a prominent role in a system of justice, be it Britain that the European Court international or national."

A number of features stand stepped its remit or misjudged out from Ryssdal's presidency. the correct balance between He had a fine legal mind, of public interest and protection of course, but above all he displayed the balance and good many of the cases which came sense which mark out the best to Strasbourg from the United judges. His period as President coincided with new states be- our judges could not apply the coming party to the Convention on Human Rights; some of these had grave human-rights problems. On such cases, the court has been firm in upholding the international standards national level. I know that he which the convention was created to provide.

Ryssdal played a pivotal role when the Human Rights Bill is in promoting institutional reform, which comes to fruition this November with the establishment of the full-time court. Rolv Einar Ryssdal, judge: born Ryssdal pressed for all the stan-protocols to be accepted, including Protocol No 6 on the Court of Human Rights 1973-98, abolition of the death penalty. Vice-President 1981-85, President He frequently stressed the importance of domestic judges' be-

At a public lecture in Lon-

swered criticism of some in of Human Rights had overthe individual. He stressed that Kingdom only did so because convention directly. He strongly favoured their being permitted to do so, stressing that it was best for balancing rights and the public interest to be done at the was personally delighted that . this will happen soon in the UK

Peter Duffy

Bergen, Norway 27 October 1914; way 1969-84; Judge, European 1985-98; married 1954 Signe Stray (two sons, one daughter); died Oslo ing able to give effect to 18 February 1998.

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

BIRTHS

HENSTRIDGE: On 25 February 1998, in Washington DC, to Catherine (nec Malone) and Mark, a sod, Jacob William.

William,
MORRIS: On 25 February 1998, at Bay
View Hospital, Barbados, to Alison
(nee Warning) and Richard, a son,
Charles Edward Reford.

HARRIS: Donald D., aged 69, of Ver-wood, Dorset. Suddenly on 26 Feb-ruary 1998. Funeral Monday 9 March. Enquiries to Harry Tomes Ltd FD, 01202 394340.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Queen brishas investoure at Busingdom Paince. The Dulan of Edithoury in President Enemistry, concern Mr Francis Sulfices and Mes Gunda Novide-Walder of the World Walder and the World Walder and Mes Gunda Novide-Walder of the World Walder and Mes Gunda Novide-Walder of the World Walder and He World Walder and He World Walder and He World Walder and He World He House, and Falmer in Postage English to Sulfice and He Walder and Marked Malacker and Develope Lander Malacker and He Walder and He Walder and Malacker and He Walder and He Walder and Malacker and He Walder and He Walder and Malacker and He Walder and He Walder and Malacker and He Walder and He Walder and Malacker and He Walder and He Walder and He Walder and Malacker and He Walder and He Walder and Malacker and He Walder and He Wal

Changing of the Guard

The Heischrid Creater Mounted Regiment departs
the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham.

Birthdays

Mr Ernest Bradbury, writer and broadcaster, 79; The Hon Peter Brooke MP, 64; Sir George Gardiner, former MP, 63; Mr David Glencross former chief executive, ITC, 62; Dr Rod Hackney, past President, RIBA, 50; Mrs Joan Humble MP, 47; Mr Takashi Ishihara, counsellor, Nissan Motor Co, Sc; Mr Martin Lovett, musician and teacher, 71; Mr Maurice Lynn, former Headmaster, the Or-atory School. 47; Mrs Eleanor McLaughlin, former Lord Provost and Lord-Lieutenant of Edinburgh, 60; Air Vice-Marshal Charles Manghan, 75; Lord Mellish, former gov-ernment minister, 85; Professor Nell Merritt, former Vice-Chancellor. Portsmouth University, 59: Mr James School Newcastle upon Tyne, 48; Mr Steve Morrison, Chief Executive, Granada Media Group. 51: Mr Peter O'Sullevan, racing commentator. 80: Sir Mark Prescott, raceborse trainer, 50: Miss Miranda Richardson, 40; Mr Ronald Searle, artist and cartoonist, 78; Lord Templeman, a former Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, 78: Miss Fatima Whitbread, javelin thrower, 37: Mr Mike Wood MP, 52.

Anniversaries Births: Edmund Waller, poet, 1606; Thomas Otway, playwright, 1652: William Godwin, novelist and political writer, 1756; John Austin, author and jurist, 1790; William Charles Macready, actor and manager, 1793; Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, 1847; Arthur Liewellyn Jones Machen, novelist, ac-tor and journalist, 1863; Sir Henry Joseph Wood, founder of Promenade

Concerts, 1869; Philip Edward Thomas, poet and critic, 1878; Jean Harlow (Harlean Carpenter), ac-tress, 1911. Deaths: Robert Hooke, physicist, 1703; William Stukeley, antiquary and physician, 1765; Robert Adam, architect, 1792; Giovann Adam. architect. 1792: Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo, painter and en-graver, 1804; Antony Vandyke Cop-ley Fielding, landscape painter, 1855; Sir Sidney Lee, editor and biogra-pher. 1926; Arthur Koestler, au-thor. 1983; Danny Kave (Daniel David Kamiraka) actionad again David Karminsky), actor and enter-tainer, 1987. On this day: Bizet's Carmen was first performed at the Opera Comique. Paris, 1875; Italian Somaliland fell to the British army, 1941; one of the world's worst air disasters occurred when a Tarkish DC-10 crashed after take-off from Paris, with the loss of 346 lives, 1974; Estonia and Latvia voted to secode from the Soviet Union, 1991. Today is the Feast Day of St Aelred of Rievaulx, St Anselm of Nonantola, St Arthelais, St Chef, St Cunegund. empress, St Emeterius, St Gervinus, Saints Marinne and Accounts Saints Marinus and Astyrius, St Non or Nonnita and St Winwaloe or

Lectures

Victoria and Albert Museum: Amelia Fearn, "Silver and the Ritu-als of the Dining Table", 2.30pm. London School of Economics: Dr M. Umer Chapra, "Islamic Economics: a new paradigm". 5.30pm. RIBA (66 Portland Place, London W1): Chris Wise, "Simplicity Is",

6_30pm. Leicester University: Professor David Field, "Babies, Bags of Sugar and the Art of the Possible", 5.30pm.

LAW REPORT: 3 MARCH 1998

egal aid board could refuse to meet claims

Regina v Legal Ald Board, ex parte Rafina; Queen's Bench Division, Crown Office List (Mr justice Latham) 12 February 1998

THE LEGAL Aid Board was entitled to refuse to meet claims made by a solicitor under the green form scheme in respect of work undertaken by a self-employed consultant adequately supervised. Where an appeal against such a refusal should give its reasons.

The court dismissed an apdecisions of the Legal Aid Board arising out of claims made by the applicant firm of the applicant; Charles Utley (Legal Aid solicitors under the green form Board) for the respondent.

reference AF, appeared to the Legal Advice and Assishave been working for more than 24 hours a day, and that the claims appeared to be almost pro forma.

The firm's sole principal stated that the work had been carried out by a Mr Farah, and that the hours claimed did not reflect the work carried out by him, but by a number of clerks where that work had been in- or associates employed by him on an ad hoc basis, and paid by him from his own earnings. His was dismissed by the board's arrangement with the applicant area committee, the committee was that he worked as a self employed consultant and was paid a commission of 35 per cent of plication for judicial review of the fee income received by the applicant.

Rabinder Singh (Irwin Mitchell) for

The board became con- Mr Justice Latham said that cerned about the claims being the board had taken the view. made by the applicant under that the level of supervision of the green form scheme, noting Mr Farah did not meet the regiven. that one person, under the quirements of regulation 20 of

tance Regulations 1989, which provided that:

nothing in these regulations shall prevent a solicitor from entrusting any function under these regulations to a partner of his or to a compe-tent and responsible representa-tive of his who is employed in his office or is otherwise under his immediate supervision. A block on payments out of

the legal aid fund had been placed on the applicant's account. The board had subsequently re-determined the solicitor's immediate super- to the committee to certify a applicant's claims at nil, and she had appealed to the area committee, which had not been satisfied that she had entrusted the work to competent and responsible representatives employed in her office, nor that those persons had been under appropriate supervision. The applicant had asked for Appeal Committee should be more detailed reasons for that decision, but none had been

the area committee's decision. holding that the words "employed in his office" in regulation 20 referred to those persons employed by the solicitor under the normal principles of employment, including payment of PAYE: that self-employed persons carrying out some work within a solicitor's office, or outside the office, must be under the

appealed to the Costs Appeal

Committee, which had upheld

breach of regulation 20 would be disallowed. That interpretation of regulation 20 was correct. The applicant had also submitted that the decisions of the area committee and the Costs quashed because of the failure

vision; and that costs claimed

for work undertaken in

of the area committee to give reasons for its decision. Al-The applicant had then though there was no statutory

obligation upon the area committee to give reasons, it was right that the appeal structure in a case such as the present made it clear that reasons should be given, leaving aside any general principles of fairness

There were two stages in the appeal process which made the giving of reasons necessary. The first was the point at which a solicitor had to consider whether or not to apply point of principle or general importance, and the second was when, in order to make a decision as to the correctness of the area committee's decision, the Costs Appeal Committee would need to know the area committee's conclusions of fact. In the present case, however, no prejudice had been caused to the applicant by the failure to give reasons.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

Overseas Investment Trust head quits after arbitrageurs move in

THE CHAIRMAN of the Overseas Investment Trust (OIT), which is managed by Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, has unexpectedly resigned over proposals to convert the £190m company into a unit trust.

Richard Hesletine is fundamentally opposed to the forthcoming "unitisation" of OIT forced upon the trust's managers by two New York

proposals, which are expected to be fore the company's December AGM. presented to shareholders "within

under the names Liverpool Limited tinuation vote" through at the AGM. Partnership and Westgate Interna-

ment directly on his objections to the a 15 per cent stake in OIT just be-

The bulk of the shares were bought health, it's not to pursue other in-vestment manager originally handling terests, it's not to spend more time the trust was declared bankrupt and resigned. The arbitrageurs then used The two arbitrageurs - trading their voting rights to force a "discon-

Every year, OIT shareholders

company. The process is usually a formality, but this year, the arbitrageurs managed to push through days". On the subject of his resignation from OIT, he said: "Put it this Friendly Society, which put its 14 per of OIT will later this week suggest way, it's nothing to do with ill- cent stake up for sale after the in- to shareholders that the company be converted to a unit trust. Of T is ex-

> Since the AGM, the two arbitrageurs have increased their stake to 21 per cent. Other arbitrageurs. including Sierra Trading - which last

pected to be liquidated.

Trust - and Tokkei Bank have also set value of the shares - the value of bought shares.

The probable conversion of OIT to a unit trust is part of a wider industry trend. Investment trusts - quoted

vestment trust shares has led to a widening "discount", or difference of their shares, and make a tidy profit.

Mr Heseltine declined to com- tional Limited Partnership - bought vote on whether to continue with the year forced the liquidation of Klein- between the value of the shares in wort Benson's Overseas Investment the investment trust and the net asthe underlying investments.

More and more arbitrageurs have been seeking to exploit these widening discounts by buying up large companies which invest in stocks on stakes in investment trusts then debehalf of their shareholders - have manding these companies convert fallen out of favour in recent years. into unit trusts. When the conversion This tailing-off in demand for incan sell out, receive the net asset value

trade under a number of different names. For OIT, they have used the Liverpool Limited Partnership, based in Bermuda, and the Westgate International Limited Partnership, based in the Cayman Isles.

However, the two individuals, whose real name is believed to be Elliot, also go under the name of

Outlook, page 21

PacifiCorp raises Eastern stakes with £4.35bn bid

with my family".

By Michael Harrison

THE TWO-WAY battle for control of Eastern, England's biggest electricity supplier, reached fever pitch last night after the US utility PacifiCorp came back with an increased 820p-a-share bid valuing its parent company Energy group at £4.35bn.

810p offer tabled earlier in the day by PacifiCorp's US rival Texas Utilities. PacifiCorp, which already has regulatory clearance to ity arranged by Chase Manhattan, bid for Energy Group, also disclosed that its advisers Goldman Sachs had bought up 8.6 per cent of Energy Group in a market raid. Texas said last night it was considering whether to come back have debts of some \$14bn and a with a higher offer.

The frantic activity sets the the two US utilities for Energy likely to rise further today.

Eastern is set to become the added Mr Nye. eighth regional electricity comparty to fall under US ownership.

fifth time that ownership of Eastern has changed hands since it was privatised in 1990.

Texas has agreed to sell Energy Group's US coal business Peabody to Lehman Brothers Merchant Banking for \$2.3bn (£1.4bn) if the takeover goes through. PacifiCorp, which al-The bid topped an agreed ready has substantial US coal interests, would retain Peabody.

The Texas bid is being funded through a \$10.3bn debt facil-Lehman and Merrill Lynch and would create a combined business with debts of \$18bn. After the disposal of Peabody and the planned issue of new equity, Texas would

Erle Nye, chairman of Texas, scene for a bitter battle between , said none of the funding would Group Its shares rose 28p to 806p that Eastern would be ring guidance from the Office of Fair last night as the markets calculated fenced with an independent cred- Trading or approached the Dethat the latest bid was unlikely to it facility and access to low-cost partment of Trade and Industry. he referred to the Monopolies and capital. "We will be a net investor Mergers Commission and are in Eastern and we will not be taking funds out of the enterprise."

Should PacifiCorp come back with another increased offer Assuming one of the two rival then the takeover battle is like-

bids goes through, it will be the iy to become even more heated. Mr Nve described reports circulating before its bid that Texas was anti-union as "an unadulterated lie" and defended its record of

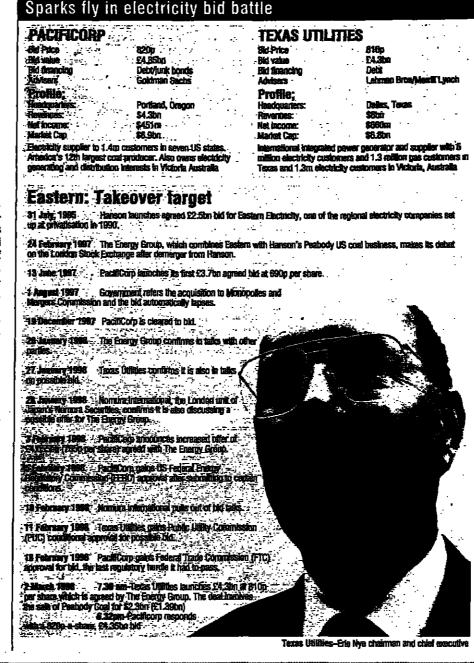
running nuclear plants in the US. PacifiCorp began the auction for Energy Group last June, bidding 695p or £3.7bn. The bid was referred to the MMC by the President of the Board of Trade Margaret Beckett in July and cleared last December.

Mr Nye said he was confident that the bid would escape an MMC referral. Texas, he said, had agreed to abide by all the conditions attached by the Office of Fair Trading to a PacifiCorp takeover of Energy Group. Texas executives have briefed

debt-equity ratio of 155 per cent. Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, and a number of MPs on the bid. But be in the form of junk bonds and they have not sought any formal Texas wants to keep Energy

Group's senior management on board although there are doubts about whether Mr Devaney will stay long-term once ownership

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SmithKline told to find partner

By Andrew Yates

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at A2

SmithKline Beecham faces an uphili struggle to convince its shareholders that it should remain independent in the wake of the collapse of merger talks with fellow drugs giant Glazo Wellcome.

A number of fund managers yesterday called on the group to seek other merger partners to recoup the value lost from the termination of the Glaxo deal. Meanwhile, Glaxo Well-

come is to continue to lobby its shareholders to support a nopremium bid for SmithKline, despite the fact that institutions are divided on the ments of such a deal, it emerged yesterday.

Several large institutional shareholders are willing to support such a hostile bid, but others believe the potential obstacle of writing off £45bn of goodwill which could result from a takeover is too much to overcome.

Glaxo has ruled out the idea of offering a large premium for SmithKline after an outery from some of its largest shareholders which have indicated they would resist such a move. They are against such a bid as it will destroy much of the extra value that could result from a merger.

Glaxo's advisers are understood to be confident they can overcome the goodwill problem by structuring the deal to avoid

liabilities. Another idea suggested by investors would be to produce separate accounts, one stating the "clean" underlying earnings figures and another including the effect of goodwill write-offs.

"We want our £15bn of value back and we will consider any way to get it," said one shareholder in both SmithKline and Glaxo. Both companies face a testing time over the coming weeks in their attempts to justify the breakdown in talks. It seems clear that the future of Jan Leschly, chief executive of SmithKline, and Sir Richard Sykes, chairman of Glaxo, will be called into doubt if they cannot give dispel the feeling among many institutions that the collapse of the merger had more to do with a clash of egos than management culture.

"If they cannot give us a good reason why this deal broke down we could call on the nonexecutives to assert their authority and maybe we could still get a merger," said one shareholder. However, other institutions believe all hopes for a deal are dead.

WH Smith linked with bid for Menzies

By Nigel Cope

RIVAL BIDDERS including WH Smith are thought to have entered the fray for the retail business of John Menzies which was put up for sale in January. Alchemy, the venture capital group, was front runner to buy the chain in a deal worth around £55m. However, it is understood that the sale has been delayed by two rival suitors which have come in with higher offers.

There was speculation yesterday that the other bidders

as retailers from continental Europe. Forbours and T&S Stores may also be interested.

WH Smith would not comment on any possible interest in John Menzies saying it was simply "market rumour". However, the deal would make sense as Smiths is Menzies' main rival and is selling off several businesses to concentrate on its core high street chain and its news distribution operation.

miths will announce today the sale of its The Wall music group Camelot for £28m. Last week it agreed to sell its Waterstone's books business to a consortium headed by Tim Waterstone for £300m. It also intends to sell its stake in Virgin

Our Price, the music retailer. The purchase of the 232 John Menzies stores would strengthen Smiths' position on the high street and increase its market share in its preferred markets such as books and stationery. It could achieve cost savings via the closure of the

gies through greater buying

run into competition problems because of the powerful positions of the two retailers in the newspaper and magazines markets. Though Smiths is keen to expand in these sectors, the competition authorities may regard a Smiths-Menzies deal as restricting consumer choice. If Smiths bought Menzies it would also be the dominant player in railway stations and airports.

could include WH Smith as well stores in the US to American group's head office and synerpower.

> However, such a deal might price."

Inchcape plans split-up to halt shares slump

By Peter Thai Larsen

Incheape, the distribution and

At the same time, Inchcape said it was in talks to sell its Russian bottling operations, which have been suffering heavy losses, to Coca-Cola.

After the disposals and denance director, will leave the company. Sir Colin Marshall will stay on as chairman of the remaining motors business, which will retain the Inchcape name.

took over the helm of the company two years ago. In that and its testing services business, and spent millions reoroperations.

However, the shares have failed to respond to the changes. When the Asian crisis hit they slumped to a low of 137p, down from a 307p in May, Sir Colin said: "The demergers and divestments are designed to deliver to shareholders the truc underlying value of the Group, which we do not believe is reflected in the current market

complexity of Incheape's three

marketing group, yesterday announced plans to break itself into three parts in an attempt to reverse the recent slide in its share price.

The company, which has been hit by upheaval in its Asian markets, plans to spin off its Latin American Coca-Cola bottling operations and its Asian marketing division as separate companies, leaving Inchcape to concentrate on its main motor distribution business.

Its shipping business has also been put up for sale as part of the plans which will see it sell or spin off about 20 per cent of its

The demergers complete a huge restructuring programme initiated by Sir Colin when he time, Inchcape has sold Bain Hogg, the insurance broker. ganising its remaining might be able to sell the busi-

businesses had confused investors, "Removing the cloak of diversity will allow shareholders to make more informed decisions." The City welcomed the

move, pushing the shares up 22.5p to 211p on the news. Analysts calculated that, valued independently, the three businesses produced a sum of the parts valuation of at least 250p per Inchcape share. "It's quite revolutionary," said Tony Shepard, analyst with Greig Middleton & Co. "Obviously there is value there and they are hoping to realise it."

Incheape plans to float the Latin American bottling operations on the Chilean stock exchange later this year. Mr Cushing said the move made sense because the Chilean Stock Exchange already plays host to several similar businesses, all of which trade on price/earnings mergers are completed next multiples "in the 20s." Last year, Philip Cushing, the chief year, Inchcape's bottling unit executive and Les Cullen, the fi-made operating profits of £13m, though this included £17m of start-up losses in Russia.

Inchcape acknowledged that British shareholders, who own 80 per cent of the company's shares, would probably not want to own shares in firms listed in Chile and Asia. However, the company said it would do "whatever is necessary" to make sure that shareholders could participate in the companies. And analvets said that a flotation may not be necessary, as Incheape nesses to trade buyers.

Inchcape's board first discussed splitting the company up last year, after deciding to concentrate on the main motor distribution operations. Asked why he had effectively worked himself out of a job, Mr Cushing said: "When I took over I expected to be in charge for many years. But I have to accept the conclusion that we no longer need a chief executive."

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Fresh focus leads BTR to sell global packaging business for £2.2bn

BTR vesterday took another big step in its attempt to refocus itself from a conglomerate to an engineering group with the sale of its global packaging business for £2.2bp.

Ian Strachan, the chief executive, who reports annual results for BTR on Thursday, also unveiled a higher-thanexpected £2bn share buyback scheme for his hard-pressed investors. He believed the company had turned the credibility corner adding "any significant move like this begins to restore shareholder confidence".

The moves sent shares racing ahead 25.5p to 187p but City analysts said more needed to be done completely to rehabilitate a company which had issued five profit warnings in three years.

BTR won a strong price for the sale of its glass and plastic packaging business to Owens-Illinois Inc of the US. Strachan said it was double what many people had expected but others gave the credit to Goldman Sachs who arranged it. The disposal, which should

be completed in April, follows

the sale of BTR's polymer di-

vision in November to a man-

agement buyout for £515m.

glass business in Australia and the Continental PET packaging operation in the US. The worldwide packaging

business, which generated £250m profit to December 1996, can only be sold once relevant regulatory approval is given in the various countries.

The company intends to return its £1.5bn to shareholders in the first half of this year with the remaining £0.5bn expected to be handed over following the abolition of ACT

in 1999. Earlier there had

The packaging operations include the Rockware bottling business in Britain, the ACI business in Britain business in Brita Mr Strachan said: "The pro-

posed return of capital reflects the continued commitment to an efficient capital structure, consistent with BTR's need to have resources available for [engineering] investment." He added that BTR was

ahead with scheduled divestment programme with half of the proposed asset sales completed and the rest mainly targeted to go before the end of An initial public offering is

under consideration for the

might may back between £1bn the US and Australia while tim is Formica, based in Cincinnati. But it has not been all disposals. In October the company

spent £361m buying Exide Electronics, a US-based manufacturer of power supply systems. The move failed to boost a sagging share price. Last December BTR

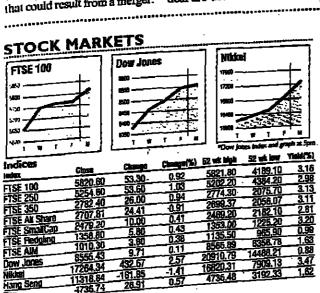
warned that second half results would be hit by the strength of sterling and economic downturns in the Far East and South America. This wiped £1bn off the value of its shares.

Most analysts expect Thursday's results to show pre-tax profits of a shade over the £1bn mark compared with £1.3bn last time.

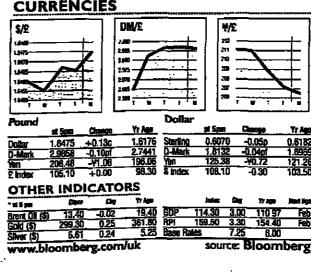
But one said: "With BTR's record you never take anything for granted."

Most City forecasters expect a very slight deterioration in 1998 results over 1997 figures. BTR watchers say the company's management will only be treated more favourably when it not only completes its sales programme but also shows that it can run a going concern at a

Outlook, page 21



INTEREST RATES UK 10 year gät Short sterling US long bond MAIN PRICE CHANGES



TOURIST RATES Australia (dollars) 2.3572 italy (lira) 2.879 Austria (schillings) 20.42 Japan (yen) 204.96 Belgium (francs) 60.06 Maka (lira) 0.6356 Canada (\$) 2.3051 Netherlands (guilders) 3.274S Cyprus (pounds) 0.8488 Norway (kroner) 12 21 Denmark (kroner) 11.15 Portugal (escudos) 296.49 Finland (markka) 8.8900 Spain (pesetas) 245.55 France (francs) South Africa (rand) 7.8525 Germany (marks) 2.9182 Sweden (kroner) 12.92 Greece (drachmel) 461,45 Switzerland (francs) 2.3614 Hong Kong (\$) 12.47 Turkey (lira) 366,709 reland (punts) USA (\$) 1.1714 1.6223 Source: Thomas Cook Rates for indication purposes only

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY ANDREW YATES

Inchcape plans more reforms

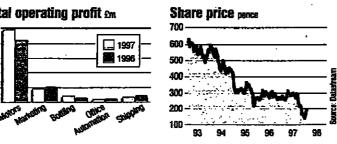
SIR COLIN MARSHALL bardly looks like a dangerous radical. But since he took over the chair at Incheape two years ago the distributor has been in a state of permanent revolution. First chief executive Charles Mackay walked the plank, clutching a large payoff. He was replaced by Philip Cushing, who embarked on a whirlwind restructuring programme. Insurance broker Bain Hogg and the testing services arms were sold off, the dividend axed and the company spent £55m cutting jobs.

Just when the company seemed to be running normally, the Asian bubble burst, hammering its marketing and motor distribution businesses in the Far East. The result was that the share suggest a break-up value north of price, which had been perking up. 250p a share. Given the shares yesterhalved in less than four months.

Latin American Coca-Cola bottling op- worth getting on for the ride. crations will get a listing on the Chilear Stock Exchange, where several similar companies already trade on mouth- M&C books in a watering ratings. The Russian bottling business, which has sucked up cash in 30% profits rise the past three years, will be sold to Coca-Cola. And in 1999, when Asian markets have calmed down, the mar- INVESTORS who booked into

business. The shipping business, for another 19p to 508.5p. Back of the envelope calculations run out of steam. In London the





prospect of 10,000 new rooms threat-

ened to swamp the market. But while

it is true the market will struggle to

last few years, there are still no signs

that caused the industry's downfall in

the late 1980s. And the millennium cel-

Not that M&C has to rely on the

hotel cycle for further growth. Typically,

within 12 months. Its move into confer-

cessful strategy and a tight control on

to increase occupancy rates, which are

already very strong. To maintain its

growth rate into the next century it will

America. Both its Millennium four star

costs is continuing to help margins.

boost next year.

Excellent meeting and conference facilities at over 80 locations

day closed at 211p, up 22.5p, there's Sir Colin's response has been to be enough value hidden in Inchcape for even more radical. Having slimmed investors to overlook the expected 8 per Incheape down to three divisions - cent drop in profits, to £165m, this year. motors, marketing and bottling - the Bearing in mind that in these situations next step is to break them up. So the it's always better to travel hopefully,

keting businesses will be demerged. Millennium & Copthorne when it The result is that Inchcape will be- floated nearly two years ago have had come a pure motor group. Whether UK a very happy stay. In that time the investors want to be handed shares in shares have risen more than 80 per cent. companies listed in Chile and the Far Yesterday it showed it had been able East is a moot point. But it may not to shake off the effects of the strong come to that. After all, Bain Hogg was pound and the Asian crisis on the supposed to spun off until insurance British tourist market by announcing group Aon came in with a bid, and a 32 per cent rise in 1997 pre-tax prof-Coca-Cola may try to buy the entire its to £50.2m, causing the shares to rise

which expressions of interest have been Last year some analysts were conreceived, should also be sold quickly. cerned that the hotel boom would soon shares on a prospective p/e ratio of 17. It is not time to check out of the shares. Under the new leadership of John Wilson, the highly respected former head of Hilton International, the group promises much. But at this price there is little room for disappointment and the stock looks about right for now.

Dull outlook for Billiton shares

SOUTH-EAST Asian woes have given mining shares a real bashing. Billiton, the base metals group spun off last July from Gencor, the South African conglomerate, is no exception.

Billiton has been ground down on the London market from a flotation price of 220p to 149p by the end of last week. But yesterday the shares recovered 9.5p to 158.5p as it announced profits for the maintain the heady growth levels of the six months to December up 47 per cent to \$249m (£151m) on the back of a 10 of the huge increase in hotel capacity per cent turnover increase to \$3.04bn.

Billiton is directly affected by weak commodity prices and 27 per cent of ebrations will give the sector a further its business goes to Japan and Asia. The group benefited in the last six months from good prices on aluminium, titanium minerals and base metal prices. the group is getting a 15 per cent return

But Billiton admits aluminium prices from its refurbishment programme are now coming under pressure.

Confidence could be built by some well-placed acquisitions. Most natural encing and the business market is a sucresource companies are cheap at present, particularly in Asia. But as Brian Gilbert-However, M&C will find it harder son, Billiton's chief executive, put it yesterday, making choice acquisitions is "easy to say and very difficult to pull off".

It is already planning to increase its have to look for acquisitions. It is eye- stake in the Mozal aluminium smelter ing up targets in Europe and North scheme in Mozambique but the big prize lies in Venezuala, where Billiton hotels and Copthorne mid-market is bidding for privatised state assets.

require the group to issue new equity. does not want to pay too much. So the Charterhouse Tilney forecasts cur-picture remains a dull, as does the outrent year profits of £59.5m putting the look for shares.

Soaring credit leaves City divided on rates

By Diane Coyle Economics Editor

The latest figures before this week's meeting of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) left a question mark hanging over interest rates yesterday. With a record increase in consumer credit in January on the one hand, and a slowdown in manufacturing activity to the weakest pace since May 1996 on the other, City opinion was divided about whether the MPC should or would increase the cost of borrowing.

David Mackie, UK economist at JP Morgan, said: "Although growth has slowed, it probably hasn't slowed enough. The Bank is definitely on track to raise interest rates again."

In the other camp. Robert Barrie at CSFB said: "Rates ought to be left well alone. Inflation is low and monetary conditions are tight enough."

The opposing views could each claim support from yesterday's figures. January saw new consumer credit climb to £1.3bn, the highest since records began in April 1993.

Mortgage lending was a shade weaker during the month, leaving total personal borrowing nearly unchanged from December, at £3.2bn. Its annual growth, which has picked up in

Consumer boom Consumer credit (net) Em

recent months, was also the

same at 7.5 per cent. Other Bank of England figures showed that the annual growth of both the narrow money measure MO, and its main component, cash, increased in February. M0 growth, at 7.2 per cent, has returned to its highest since November 1996.

The strength of credit, like recent retail sales figures, pointed to home demand remaining other hand, the February survey of manufacturing from the Chartered Institute of Pur- in January and February. chasing and Supply painted a subdued picture of industry.

Output grew at an unchanged rate but the overall index of activity dipped to 51.2 from 51.8 in January. Although still above the key 50 level, the

Tesco signs £420m deal with British Land

Industrial decline

PMI manufacturing orders index

were down while growth in home demand tailed off.

The new orders component of the index therefore fell sharply to 50.7. only just increasing. Only consumer goods bucked the trend, with orders jumping.

The threat to manufacturing was highlighted by the pound yesterday. It brushed close to the DM3 level before falling back to just under DM2.99.

The Bank's announcement too strong for comfort. On the is due on Thursday, and most analysts expect the MPC votes to be split again, as they were

Some of the pundits who do expect the Bank to increase interest rates reckon it will not happen this week, however. Waiting another month would give the MPC some important data for the first quarter of 1998 survey showed export orders on which to base their decision.

brands have great potential overseas. It is up against tough competition But any sizeable deal would probably and Billiton is a cautious company that

By Nigel Cope

TESCO and British Land are creating a £420m property joint venture to manage developments of superstores and shopping centres. It is the second such deal signed between the two companies and will enable Tesco to concentrate on its superstore business while the joint venture looks after property related issues.

It follows a similar deal between British Land and Great have a combined value of Milton Keynes. Universal Stores a year ago, £120m. British Land is conerty portfolio was injected into Tesco superstores which are rose 25p to 760p.

a joint venture vehicle in return also valued at a combined for £220m and a 50 per cent stake. £120m. British Land acquired

In this case Tesco is condevelopments, including the and the Beaumont Leys centre in Leicester as well as two centres in Northern Ireland.

Tesco had acquired the

schemes as a means of gaining did not intend to hold them

the stores via a sale and leasetributing seven shopping centre back deal with Tesco. The joint venture will help hedge Tesco Woodfield Retail Park in Bury against rent reviews. Under the terms of the 50:50 partnership British Land will also make a bal-

ancing cash payment to Tesco. The joint venture plans to build extensions to the Beauthe best sites in the centres but mont Leys shopping centre. Weston Favell in Northampton longer term. The seven centres and the Kingston Centre in

Tesco shares closed 2.5p under which GUS' £900m prop- tributing the freehold of five higher at 519p. British Land

of £45m to shareholders

PERKINS FOODS boosted its shares yesterday with the sale of its fresh produce business and plans to return £45.4m to investors. The company said it had got an attractive price for the business, which it has agreed to sell to Dutch produce marketing group Greenery International for £123.6m. Perkins' shares rose by more than 10 per cent,

euding the day at 138.5p, up 13p. The company said the deal would enable it to develop its faster-growing chilled and frozen food divisions around Europe, where it already supplies 15 of the top supermarket groups, including Tesco and J Sainsbury.

Ian Blackburn, deputy chief executive, said Perkins was not only getting a very good price for the division, regarded historically as the lower quality one, but would have ample resources to invest in the remaining two, even after giving money back to investors.

"We are a smaller business but should be much faster growing," said Mr Blackburn, who will take over from the current chief executive Howard Phillips when he retires at the annual meeting. Mr Blackburn was hopeful Perkins could obtain shareholder and regulatory approvals for the deal by the end of the month.

Plans for the chilled foods business include a new prepacked, sliced cooked meats factory in the UK and the acquisition of a chilled readymeal business in France, which Perkins hopes to finalise by the end of March.

Chilled ready meals, pioneered in Britain, were growing in popularity in the Netherlands and France, Mr Blackburn said.

The chilled food division comprises Dutch convenience foods and UK cooked meats.

The firm also reported a 19 per cent rise in its 1997 profits and increased its total dividend payment to 4.6p a share from 4.5p last time. Group sales rose to £626.8m from £466.2m.

Perkins Foods Unauthorised trades land plans return | brokers with £10,000 fines

PRUDENTIAL-BACHE International and four employees were fined by the International Petroleum Exchange (IPE) yesterday for unauthorised gas oil trades. The fined brokers were named as Keith Barker, Gary Lambeth, Stuart Ditcham and Ian Baker. The statement said each broker acted in a way that was liable to bring the Exchange into disrepute. The IPE said Barker and Lambeth had tried to take advantage of a client's order for their own benefit, while Ditcham and Baker had manipulated, or attempted to manipulate prices. The IPE fined Mr Barker a total of £10,100 pounds, Mr Lambeth £10,000, Mr Ditcham £1,000 and Mr Baker £1,000 pounds. Prudential-Bache was fined £1,000.

Banks set for EU go-ahead

UBS and SBC, the two Swiss banks, expect to receive European Commission clearance for their merger tomorrow. A UBS spokesperson said she did not expect the Commission to impose any conditions that would damage the banks' competitiveness. The two banks announced their decision to merge in December.

Thomson buys FT books unit

PEARSON, the media company that owns the Financial Times newspaper, has sold its FT Law and Tax publishing unit for £70m to Thomson Corporation of Canada. Pearson said the sale was part of a reorganisation of its information unit around the Financial Times brand. The company also named Stephen Hill, chief executive officer of the Financial Times newspaper, as the information unit's chief executive. Pearson's shares rose 3p to 908p.

SocGen sells bonds division

SOCIETE GENERALE (SocGen), the French bank, has sold Hambros' bond business to the Royal Bank of Canada. The terms of the deal were not disclosed. SocGen's £300m acquisition of Hambros' core banking operations, including the 150-strong bonds division, was completed last Friday.

Thomas under negotiation

BRITT ALLCROFT, the company behind Thomas the Tank Engine, is in advanced talks with Reed International for the possible acquisition of the underlying rights in The Railway Series of books by the Rev W Awdry. The company already has an exclusive licence of the world-wide TV, video and character licensing rights in the series, which includes Thomas the Tank Engine, until 2011.

COMPANY	RESUL	ГS		
	Turnover £	Pro-tax C	EPS	Dividend
Steresteri (SP)*	0.740m (-)	-0 98m (-1	-0 D4 (-)	
British Polythese (F) Briti Alegrafi (F)	4631.6m (412.4m)	23 Pm (2ft.(im)	41.20 (47.1p)	20 1p
Brenner Mond (I)	5 0m (5.1m)	1.21m (0.053m)	3.76¢ (2.83p)	D 70 (D 8p)
Costels Pharm (F)	72.2m (72.2m)	6.5m (8 4m)	а бр (Я.бр)	2 Pp (2.99)
Corporate Sva (P)	7.66m (3.11m)	-3 25m (-4 4fm)	-2.0g (34.0p)	
Comestic & Desertal (II)	440 Dm (277 Cm)	30.3m (19 tm)	136p (11 <i>6</i> p)	6 Up (6 Op)
Entransen Laboure (1)	45 tm (42.2m)	6 rm (6 Din)	13 Sp (11 24p)	3 by (* 1991
Permanen (I)	43 Om (42 Om) 2.73m (2 46m)	-2.02m (3.04m)	-6 3p (14 1p)	1 25p (1 Dp)
Contacts Grapp (P)	931m (534m)	(risted (1) m088.0	4 4Gp (4 80p)	I be il Opi
Medigapa (F)	5 03km (6 20km)	21.3m (10.7m)	10 3p (3 0p)	6 Up (5 7p)
Ulliminal (F)	95.2m (112.8m)	89 8m (187 0m)	1.50 (4.30)	17 90 (18 50)
remerium & Copthorne (F	202 Sm (106 20)	3 9m (1 36m)	10.30 (8 101	6 Da (4 Bön)
Gilvez Property (F)	- (·)	50.2M (38 0m)	26 Sp (23 7p)	स क्षेत्र कि कि प्रतिका
Optoplant (I)	3 70m (3 48m)	1 4m (0 930m)	2 130 (1 77p)	C (40 10 60)
Periods Foods (F)	626.8m (469.2m)	0.550m (0.429m) 28 0m (23 Gm)		nel .
Tiebra (1)	13.3m (5.67m)	-2 61m (0.830m)	9 7p (8 5p)	4 ftg (4 5p)
ALC (L)	5.42m (3.16m)	0.804m (0.26744)	·15 31p (2 60p)	
Wastport (i)	1.40m (1.42m)	-0 62 (-3 99m)	g see to date	7.UD 194
Aperes (1)	92 Om (Of 4m)	14 0m (31 0m)	-0 (C.10 (-2 Mp)	
(F) - Fired (I) - Interior	(9P) - Spit Period	* Figs to 15:1/3 m	28 t1 (30 8p)	16 Bp

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OUTLOOK ON US BIDS FOR UK RECS, HOW RICHARD HESELTINE WAS HOUNDED OUT AT OIT AND INCHCAPE'S PLANNED BREAK-UP

Eastern promise brings on a bidding war

for British electricity companies was on the wane? Two bids in a day for Eastern, the biggest of them all, shows that not even the threat of a profit cap has dulled the taste of the US utilities. While Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, ponders the situation, shareholders in Energy Group. Eastern's parent company,

can sit back and enjoy the ride. PacifiCorp, which popped out of the Oregon woods with an \$20p offer last night, bagging 8.6 per cent of the company in the process, already has regulatory clear-ance. Texas Utilities, which bid 810p earlier in the day, does not. But unless Mrs Blockit can come up with a plausible excuse for packing Texas Utilities off to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (dislike of the Dallas Cowboys is not sufficient grounds), then it is open season.

Energy group's shareholders cannot believe their luck. Nine months ago the business was worth only 561p a share. Not much has changed since then. It still consists of a bombed out US coal business and a British utility facing an unpleasant regulatory outlook. And yet the group is worth 45 per cent more.

The official position last night from the Texas camp was that it is considering whether to come back with a higher offer. Erle Nye, the Texas chairman, may be a simple soul (aw shucks, I'm just a country boy in the City). But even he can see that the auction has to stop sometime.

Long-term interest rates have fallen since the bidding auction began last June, which means the Americans can debt fibe close to overpaying and putting a mighty strain on their balance sheets. Which ever bidder wins this one will need to be regulated like a hawk to make sure Eastern is not raided to pay the price.

Small holders lose out in trust hunt

INVESTMENT TRUSTS are hardly yet an endangered species. At The Independent, and in most other national newspapers, more listings of investment trusts are carried than for any other sector. Even so, these usually inoffensive creatures are being hunted as never before. Nor are we talking here about the relatively harmless antics of the countryside alliance. The hunters in this case are arbitrageurs, generally of the overseas variety, and they come armed not with horse and hound but with kalashnikovs and magnums.

The latest investment trust to fall victim to their money making ends is Overseas Investment Trust, a £200m trust managed by Morgan Grenfell Trust Management. Just before Christmas, a group of US based arbs bought into the trust and forced the board to bring forward proposals for unitising its assets. Yesterday the trust's chairman, Richard Heseltine, resigned in disgust, saying he could play no further part in the process. What's going on here?

There's nothing new in what OIT is being subjected to. Nearly all investment trusts trade at a discount to their net as-

WHO said that the Americans' appetite nance higher offers. But even so they must set value. That discount can be eliminated management. The discount may disappear, through unitisation. A turn is to be had by forcing the process. How big a turn depends on the size of the discount.

> The curious thing about this trust is that it is so small. Normally, arbs target poorly performing trusts which trade at big discounts. But actually OIT hasn't done badly at all in recent years, consistently recording double-digit gains in capital value. The arbs were therefore forced to buy in at a discount of just 9 per cent. By the time liquidation costs are taken into account, they are unlikely to end up with any more than half that - hardly, it might be thought, worth the time value of the investment. Still, if there's a dime to be had, an arb would sell his own grandmother to get it, and since this is the free market, why not?

One reason is that unitisation or liquidation is generally not in the best interests of ordinary, long-term investment trust shareholders. Because investment trusts have independent boards of directors. whose job it is to safeguard the interests of shareholders, their ongoing management costs are generally much lower than a unit trust, whose purpose is that of earning fees for the manager. Take the example of Kleinwort Benson

Overseas Investment Trust, which is also being unitised, again under pressure from arbs. The trust's annual management charge was a half a per cent of the assets. The Save and Prosper unit trust that will replace it will charge one and a quarter per cent. Furthermore, the new unit trust will invest predominantly in investment trusts, in effect doubling up on the cost of asset

but it is not clear this compensates longterm investors for the many countervailing advantages of investment trust status.

There's a wider point too. OIT was established so that British investors could invest overseas - not to enable overseas arbs to invest in Britain, strip out the discount and then ship it back to the Bahamas. There's not obviously anything that can be done about all this, but it's a rum old business all the same.

Velcro company comes of age

WE LIVE in the age of the Velcro company, a stick 'em together, pull 'em apart world which must be as confusing to the uninitiated as it is logical to the investment banker with his annual bonus to think about. As busily as some companies are merging and consolidating, others are demerging and divesting. Some companies, such as BAT Industries and BTR, seem to be doing both at the same time.

It was Inchcape's turn yesterday to announce a break-up. In an act of selfless sacrifice, this one actually involves the chief executive and the finance director doing themselves out of a job, something of a first. Don't feel too sorry for them though. They'll get a big fat bonus and pay-off for their trouble. So will the investment bankers that put these conglomerates together in the rolling 1980s.

That said, there's plainly industrial and

commercial pressure for consolidation and "focus" in industry comes primarily not from management and investment bankers, but from ever more demanding investors and customers. Investors want the greatest possible efficiency in use of their capital.

That in turn requires a degree of clarity and management purpose which is impossible in a group of many different businesses. In a conglomerate, the rate of return becomes fudged and obfuscated it is possible for the poor performance of one business to hide behind the better performance of another.

The pressure for consolidation goes hand in hand with that of focus. The world becomes ever more competitive. The speed of innovation and enhancement is said to be greater than at any time this century. At the same time there is persistent downward pressure on prices. Consolidation allows corporations to counter these pressures with economies of scale.

It is indicative of how powerful these arguments are that even those of us who believe competition and diversity to be the best guarantee of the wider public interest, accept the inevitability of the process. All the same, we need to be a bit careful here. Most of us swallowed the now discredited arguments for diversification with equal enthusiasm. This time round it seems to be more than just fashion which drives the process. None the less, much of what is now being done in the name of focus and consolidation will turn out to have been equally misguided. Of that there

Bank at your 'virtual branch in the wall'

In 2010, the global banking industry will be controlled by a handful of customer-friendly financial conglomerates. Banking services will be provided via PCs and telephones, cash dispensers will become "virtual branches in the wall" and, unless they pull their socks up, today's high street clearers will be soundly beaten by the "new banks" such as M& S and Virgin.

These were just some of the conclusions of 10 senior industry figures asked by the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation (CSFI) to set down their vision of the banking industry in the new millennium.

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Herb Aspbury, head of Chase Manhattan's European operations, said there was bound to be consolidation in the industry. "There are far too many of us, trying to do exactly the same things with exactly the same counterparties. One way of dealing with the excess capacity is to keep merging with

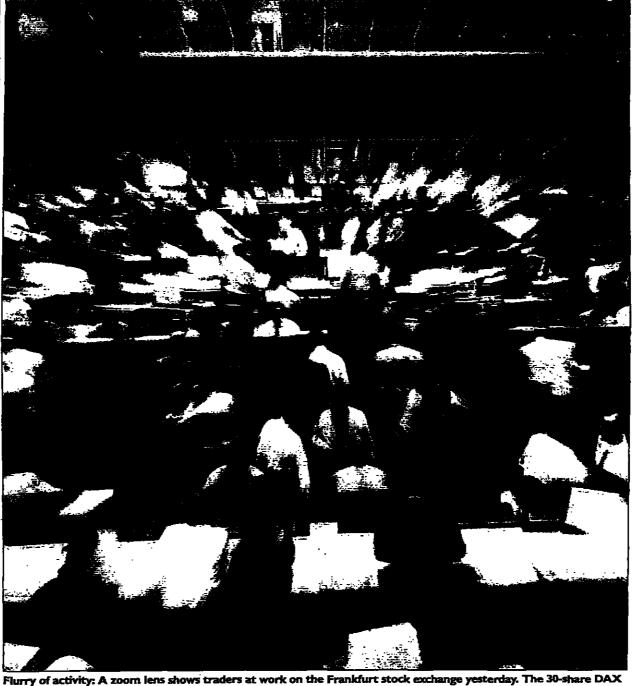
one's competitors," he said. There is unlikely to be a cross-border merger of "any great magnitude" in the near future, said Mr Aspbury. However, when the cross-border merger wave does start, Chase will certainly play a part in it. "There is scope for co-ordi-

nation between Chase and a European bank," he said, adding, "We [Chase] look at

Peter Birch, who last week stepped down as chief executive of Abbey National, also predicted consolidation would sweep through the financial services industry over the next 10 years. He said the distinction between banks, building societies and insurance companies would become increasingly blurred, resulting in the emergence of a few large banking congiomerates.

For Mr Birch said the key question was not whether consolidation would take place, but whether the traditional players would continue to provide banking services. According to Mr Birch, new entrants into the industry, such as the supermarkets, would succeed in winning sizeable chunks of market

Some of the industry figures consulted by CSFI believe banks as we know them will virtually disappear. According to Peter Cochrane, head of research at BT, "the modest ATM [cash dispenser] of today could well become the virtual branchin-the-wall of tomorrow". If today's providers of banking services are going to survive, they must change and move on, Mr Cochrane said.



index ended bourse trade up 26.91 points at 4,736.74 Photograph: Reuter

Inflation soars to 23-year high in Indonesia

INDONESIA'S inflation rate omist at Independent Ecoaccelerated to 32 per cent in February - its highest in 23 the rupiah and a lingering drought drove prices for food and clothing higher, the Central Bureau of Statistics said

Analysts said the rate of inflation had put the Indonesian government's full-year inflation target of 20 per cent out of reach, and predicted prices would have risen by 50 per cent or more by the end of the year.

"The threat of hyper inflation is very real, and puts market attention back on the urgency of measures needed to address this," ANZ Investment Bank wrote in a report yesterday. The annual inflation rate accelerated from 18.07 per cent in the previous month as the consumer price index, the key measure of inflation, rose to 255.06 points from 193.59 in February of last year. The monthly change in the index jumped to 12.76 per cent in February from January, compared with January's 6.9 per cent rise from December. Consumer prices rose just 1.07 percent in February of 1997.

Analysts said the government's official figures tend to understate price rises. "This is just the reported figure, can you imagine what it's really like out in the villages?" said Jimmy Koh, a regional econ-

nomic Analysis in Singapore. "I was looking at 50 per cent years - as the devaluation of . for the full year before this number. Now I'll probably revise it higher."

There was little relief in sight for Indonesia, which has been battered by the 73 per cent decline in the rupial in the past year, which has cast a light on how much the country has relied on goods.

Chicken breeders have gone out of businesses because they can't afford imported chicken feed anymore, drug prices have started to soar and aluminium soda cans, which are made with imported metal. are in short supply.

State electricity company PT Perusahaan Listrik Umum Negara says it cannot afford to pay full price for the coal and natural gas it uses to fire its plants and has warned it could go out of business if the government doesn't allow it to almost double electricity prices soon.

The rising price of power will in turn be reflected in almost every good manufactured here.

In February, food prices rose 16.07 per cent from the previous month, housing prices rose 10.03 per cent. clothing and textile costs rose 15.62 per cent and service and prices of service and trade rose 9.3 per cent.

Next shares dive as Wolfson announces plans to depart

By Nigel Cope City Correspondent

SHARES in Next, the fashion retailer, fell sharply yesterday when the company announced its chairman Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale is to step down as chairman after the annual meeting in May. The shares shed 36p 10 792.5p even though the group announced that Sir Brian Pitman, chairman of Lloyds TSB, the banking group, has been appointed a non-executive director and will move up to the chair on Lord Wolfson's departure. Lord Wolfson has been chairman of Next since 1990 and, together with its chief executive David Jones, succeeded in bringing the company back from the brink of financial disaster. Since 1990 the shares have risen from 12.5p as Next became a retail powerhouse and a constituent of the FTSE 100.

Analysts said the fall in Next shares was due in part to disappointment that a merger between Next and Great Universal Stores, where Lord Wolfson is also chairman, had diminished. However, one retail analyst said: "The share price fall is a bit of a surprise as it was expected that Lord Wolfson would step down before long and not many people really believed that GUS was going to bid for Next anyway." Other analysts said the market was looking for an excuse to take profits. Lord Wolfson was appointed

chairman of GUS in September and is embroiled in a £1.6bn hostile bid for Argos. GUS has also paid £1bn for Experian, the US database group, and signed a £900m property joint venture with British Land. The increasing activity of GUS in the corporate arena has made it difficult for Lord Wolfson to remain as chairman of both companies.

Lord Wolfson: Will step down as chairman in May

shares was due to the departure of Hilary Santell, the group's head of womenswear buying However, analysts said Ms Santell had left late last year after a riding accident and that there was nothing untoward about

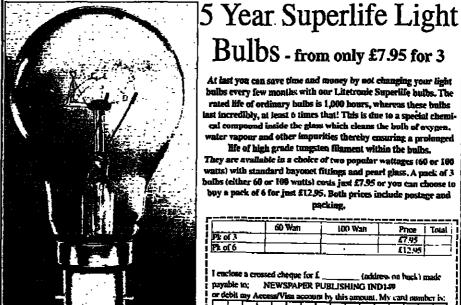
There was speculation yesterday that the wobble in Next her departure.

man Noel Suryth.

tip Dunloe over the 50 per cent level it needed to gain con-The acrimonious battle for

Both bids value Ewart at about

THE INDÉPENDENT



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cal compound inside the glass which cleans the bulb of oxygen, water vapour and other impurities thereby ensuring a prolonged life of high grade tungsten filament within the bulbs.

LIG looks to expand Durex market in Chinese joint venture by state-owned factories and givpany. The Chinese partner is Chi-

By Teresa Poole in Peking

THE WORLD'S higgest condom manufacturer has set its sights on the world's largest potential market London International Group (LIG) yesterday announced the establishment of China's first condom joint venture, a Durex manufacturing operation aimed

at the growing number of relatively wealthy young, urban couples who are limited to one child under the country's strict family planning policies.

Condom usage in China is low, accounting for 4 per cent of contraceptive use. Almost all the 1.22 billion condoms produced annually in China are unannually in Called don International Latex Combranded products manufactured don International Latex Com-

en away free to married couples. The commercial retail condom market is limited and it is difficult for Chinese to obtain condoms if they are unmarried.

Under yesterday's agreement, I IG will invest \$3.5m (£1.8bm) for a 50 per cent share in the joint venture company, Qingdao Lon-

na's second-biggest state condom manufacturer, based in Qingdao, Shandong province. LIG will bring in the latest technology and a management team, with an initial planned production of 158 million Durez condoms a year, of which 20 per cent must be exported and the rest sold in China as branded retail product. £25.7m.

Dunloe wins Ewart with chairman's aid

THE CHAIRMAN of Ewart, the property company at the centre of a three-way bidding war, yesterday split with the rest of his board and accepted the 81p a share offer from Dunloe House for his 16 per cent stake in the company.

Brian O'Connor said his acceptance of the offer would provide certainty to shareholders as, together with Dunloe's shares and acceptances, it would give Dunloe a majority of the shares in Ewart.

Dunioe already has control of, or has received acceptances for, about 35 per cent of Ewart's shares, including the 26 per cent stake held by Dunloe chair-An added 16 per cent would

control of Ewart saw Dunloe and Moyne each put in two bids. The Ewart board yesterday recommended shareholders reject the Dunloe offer and accept the Moyne offer.

Halifax soars on hopes of more cash windfalls

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

screens. The building societycum-mortgage bank surged to a peak, up 31p at 977p. At one time the shares stood at

Hopes of a bumper payout when the group reports year's figures today were behind the

There is talk that besides an 18 per cent dividend increase to 17.5p, Halifax will spray as much as 40p a share in the form of a special dividend among its shareholders. It is stuffed with cash -

perhaps as much as £4bn above its needs. Some suggest it will accompany its figures, underlying profits should be up 15 per cent at £1.64bn, with a predatory strike. A host of would-be targets

have been mentioned, ranging from unit trust group M&G to a £12bn share exchange assault on Norwich Union, the insurer which, like Halifax, floated last

peak, up 7p at 523p (after prices.

The rest of the stock market stretched to new highs with Footsie closing for the first time above 5,800 points.

The search for shares overlooked in the long bull run kept prices on the boil. The recent round of corporate action as well as rumours of more to come, a firm New York opening and the feeling interest rates will be pegged again this week were other influences.

by two significant Pootsie upgrades. SG Securities raised its year-end target from 5,350 to 6,000 and Panmure Gordon went from 6,000 to 6,600. Footsie's volatility, however, was underlined by a late

Optimism was encouraged

53.3 up at 5,820.6. WPP, the advertising agency, illustrated the way order-driven trading was con-M&G held at 1,552.5p and tinuing to heighten the un-

suspended as the market closed with the buying price at 310p against 304p on the sell side. It seems a spaghettifingered trader pumped in the wrong price and was prevailed upon to withdraw the order during what is known as the "housekeeping" period.

closed, WPP sported not a solitary buy order but a sell at | Share spotlight 304p. The last order-driven trade was at 315p and that was regarded as the closing quoted WPP is not a Footsie stock

So, after the market had

and, therefore, played no part in the index calculation. BTR. the conglomerate which moved nearer its ambition of becoming a focused engi-25.4 fall, leaving the index neering group, was the best performing constituent. After a long, depressing underperformance, it jumped 25.75p

to 187p, highest since De-

cember, following the £2.2bn

Halifax dominated the dealing Norwich went to another certainty over closing Footsie sale of its packaging operations used to benefit from re-ratings and the promise to return with Bine Circle Industries Dealings in the shares were £2bn to shareholders.

Energy, the Eastern electricity group, also contributed to Footsie's exuberance, gaining 28p to 806p as Texas Utilities offered £4.3bn in cash, adding to the the investment community's already over-

flowing cash coffers. share price, pence

Stores, where his lordship is **Halifax**

15p to 194p as an alleged stock overhang was cleared; 38.75p higher at 394p. Merger Rolls-Royce rose 9.5p to 242p talk lifted Hepworth 12.5p to ahead of Thursday's results. 237.5p and rumoured partner Diageo firmed 14.5p to Marley gained a further 2p to 638p on reports of a rich

Next, following the sig-Domeca, seeming out of the nailed departure of Lord running, off 18.5p at 567p. Wolfson of Sunningdale as chairman, fell 36p to 792.5p. He will be replaced by Sir added 2.75p to 22.75p on Brian Pitman, chairman of reports stockbroker Colin Lloyds TSB. The Wolfson link had been viewed as a possible per cent. However, it could be bridge for a merger between Next and Great Universal

also chairman. General Electric Co gained 11p to 408p on unsubstantiated talk of a 525p target being set and Rentokil Initial climbed 11.25p to 311p on Merrill Lynch support.

Lasmo, ahead of investment presentations, flared 10.5p to 286.75p and British Petroleum put on 23p to 861p on Salomon Smith Barney support.

TAKING STOCK

Engineer FKI hardened

Dewar's sale price with Allied

Spring Ram, the bath-

rooms group reporting today,

Blackbourn had picked up 1

something of a "spring ramp".

the response to his 3.1 per cent

shareholding in Tadpole Tech-

nology, did have 1 per cent but

has since sold most of his

Honeysuckie, the fashion

group, fell 3p to 15.5p after dis-

closing it was in refinancing

Cox Insurance 23p higher to

328p. A year ago the shares

Speculative buying pushed

talks.

were 149.5p.

Mr Blackbourn, famed for

Warner Estates has acquired the 9.5 per cent of the Stockbourne property management group sold by Panther Securities. Stockhourne, formerly Harmony Leisure, held at 2.75p. It has an £11m joint venture with Warner, off Sp at

British Thornton, the packaging group, was suspended at 25.5p. A software group, Planit, is to be reversed into the company for around £12m, with £9m satisfied by the issue of

Bearing Power, a bearings distributor, rose 4p to 18.5p. It is selling its Canadian operation for £11.2m cash. BP is capitalised at £6.4m.

Fibernet, rolling out a pational communications network. jumped 15.5p to 201.5p as stockbroker Greig Middleton forecast it would move into profits with a £6m outcome in its next year.



Is the American experience exceptional enough for Wall St?



MCRAE **ON HOW** US BULLS HAVE GOT IT WRONG

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IS US business really so exceptional? It is a crucial question because so much of the enthusiasm on Wall Street is founded on the assumption that something special has happened to American companies - that they have somehow made a step change in their efficiency, and that this superior performance will enable the economy to race onwards. A brief visit to the States last week has convinced me that something special has indeed been taking place in the US - but that it is not quite as special as Wall Street seems to think.

Anyone who works with the best large US corporations will be aware of the quality of management, the attention to detail, and sheer hard work of the people there. But to say that big US companies are very good and are becoming better is not just an impressionistic judgement: you can see it in the figures. Have a look at the graph on the left. It shows what has been happening to US productivity over the last 25 years, productivity both in manufacturing and for the non-farm business economy as a whole.

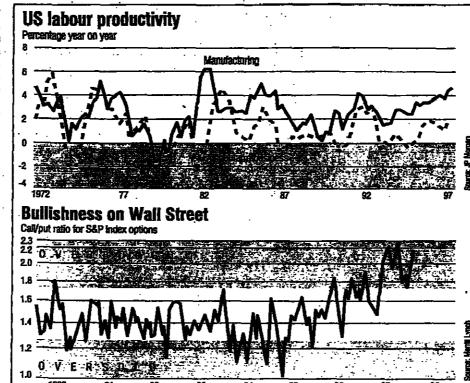
2 per cent and 6 per cent a year through most of the 1980s. remained positive through the early 1990s recession, and then pulled away right through the ensuing boom. It is an astonishing performance, all the more so since productivity in US manufacturing was already higher than anywhere else in the world at the start of the period. It is easy to improve productivity if you are coming from behind, but extremely difficult if you are already far ahead.

The other point is less impressive. If you look at manufacturing things are terrific, and when we think of large American companies we usually think of manufacturers. If you look at the whole economy, the performance is less wonderful This is the flip side of the amazing ability of the US economy to create jobs: in the service sectors, productivity has not been rising fast, for companies have been tending to meet additional demand not by improving productivity but by taking on more people.

As with all figures, you should take this with a pinch of salt. I suspect that these general productivity numbers fail to take into account improvements in the quality of service that has taken place in the US. As anyone who visits the US regularly will have noticed, the quality of service continues to improve - but it is very hard to pin this down in the statistics.

Nevertheless, it is clearly much harder to increase productivity in service industries than in manufacturing, which is a problem since only about 18 per cent of US GDP is now generated by manufacturing. So you can have corporate exceptionalism co-existing alongside quite muted productivity growth in the economy as a whole. Looking ahead, there are

reasons to expect rather slower growth in the US economy this year - it grew at 4 per cent in A couple of obvious points 1997 and clearly cannot keep emerge. One is that since the that sort of breathless rush going for ever. JP Morgan, which dug out these figures, believes Americans are more confident us corporations have made a member those days when growth this year will slow to tread of their own prospects and life-and that, in the near term at styles than they have been for mance and have opened up an door, credit cards at the ready.



least, a slowdown in productivity growth will take place too. How might Wall Street react

Well, I suppose you could say that Wall Street won't care too much. It has been driven by many other things: for example, the high liquidity of the savings institutions and pension funds, expectations of continued good earnings by large companies, by the fall in inflationary expectations and hence in bond yields, or simply the fact that looking round the world there are not many other attractive places to stick the money. I would accept all that, but

still argue that underpinning Wall Street is a sense of general self-confidence, of which confidence in American exceptionalism is an important constituent part. Some figures last week showed that consumer confidence is higher now than it has been for 30 years. stock market. In other words, it severe test for managers, many Just think of that - ordinary

an entire generation. So, in a even bigger gap with those of Euway, it is unsurprising that investor sentiment should also be close to record levels too.

rope and Japan, but still believe

that too much good news have

The test will come when

been priced into the market.

things do slow down. Will Amer-

ica Inc use the opportunity of the

next slowdown to slim their own

operations yet again and hence

be able to continue to deliver im-

proved profitability? That there

will be a slowdown at some

stage is not in doubt. Economies

never move back to their trend

growth and stick there: they

tend to overshoot both on the

relatively easy, for US corpo-

rations have been able to in-

crease productivity in a period

of strong and sustained growth.

The next five will inevitably be

harder, for they will have to

increase productivity through

The last five years have been

upside and the down.

That exuberance is charted on the right. There are now two investors buying a call option on US equities for every one buying a put. In other words, twice as many investors think Wall Street will go up as go down. This is close to the record high reached last year: pretty bullish stuff. Merrill Lynch, monitoring this measure of sentiment among others, thinks that prices could surprise on the downside. Certainly, a simple glance at that graph does suggest that this level of bullishness is not sustainable.

So what should we be looking for? I think the difficult thing for Americans in particular to come to terms with will be the possible co-existence of very the next cyclical downturn. That good companies and a less strong can be done, but it will be a is possible to accept the story that of whom will only dimly re-

PEOPLE &

BUSINESS

WILLCOCK

IOHN

SARAH EVANS has just joined Ernst & Young as a partner in the accountancy firm's fraud investigation and risk management group, I hear that Sarah, formerly with Price Waterhouse's Forensic Accounting Practice, is married to Jonathan Howell, head of Enforcement and Market Regulation at the London Stock Exchange. Heaven help the milkman who gets their bill wrong.

The recent defection of the Manchester and Liverpool offices from insolvency firm Leonard Curtis has also split two brothers. David and Stephen Swaden.

The Swaden family is from Manchester, and David has ended up as a Liverpool-based insolvency partner, with Stephen in a similar job at Leonard Curtis's London office. Now the 30-odd staff in the two north-western offices of Leonard Curtis have merged with BDO Stoy Hayward, following a difference of opinion about the future direction of the firm.

The brothers insist the split is amicable. David Swaden said last week: "As things stand at the moment size is paramount. BDO is traditionally strong in corporate finance."

I was hoping to get a rise out of Stephen yesterday along the lines of "size isn't everything," but sadly he was out of the office. However, a spokeswoman for assured me Leonard Curtis "cares more about staying independent". The London side of the firm has been

undergoing a changeover at the top in recent weeks. Philip Monjack, senior partner since 1983, when the original Leonard Curtis retired, has gone off to spend more time on the golf course, to be succeeded by Keith Goodman. The lawyer from Linklaters who advised

SmithKline Beecham on their failed merger attempt with Glazo Wellcome was one Jeremy Marriage. Perhaps he should use a shotgun

NatWest has swiped William Martin from Barclays Capital to be its new director of group risk, in succession to Fred Pointon, Fred will retire on 31 March after nearly 40 years with

Mr Martin, 41, was previously head of Global Equities Risk Management at Barclays Canital, the scrag end of BZW. Before that he had stints at Hunter Douglas in Switzerland and Chemical Ban, where he worked on treasurv functions world-wide for nearly 10 years.

Much as it pains me to give the bearded ballooner more publicity, Richard Brauson cracked quite a good joke yesterday. Or at least Rowan Gormley, Virgin Direct's managing director, did.

Mr Gormley recalled that when Virgin Direct launched in 1995, the industry was quick to ridicule index tracking. Roger Cornick, Perpetual's marketing director, even likened Virgin's index-tracking PEP to a Skoda and Perpetual's actively managed PEP to an Aston Martin.

The Virgin Direct boss said yesterday: "Whoops, Roger - your Aston seems to have missed a gear. The Vargin PEP, which tracks the FTSE Actuaries All Share Index, has outperformed every single one of Perpetual's PEPs over the three years since Virgin Direct launched." It turns out the Virgin PEP went up 96 per

cent over that period, and the closest a Perpetual PEP got to that was 95 per cent for the Perpetual Income PEP. To rub salt in the wound, Virgin Direct is offering Mr Cornick the services of a chaffeur-

driven Skoda for a week. I couldn't get a response from Mr Cornick yesterday. Perhaps he was taking his Aston Martin for a spin. Derek Sach, the director of corporate and in-

stitutional banking at Royal Bank of Scotland who has just helped set up Tesco Personal Finance, has been appointed a non-executive director of Associated British Ports. Mr Sach, 49, has had a more varied career

than most commercial bankers. Prior to joining Royal Bank six years ago, he was managing director (UK) of 3i Group. When he moved to the bank he quickly made a name for himself by challenging the fees paid to receivers appointed by the bank, and even put receiverships out to tender, a move which provoked howls of anguish from the accountancy fraternity.

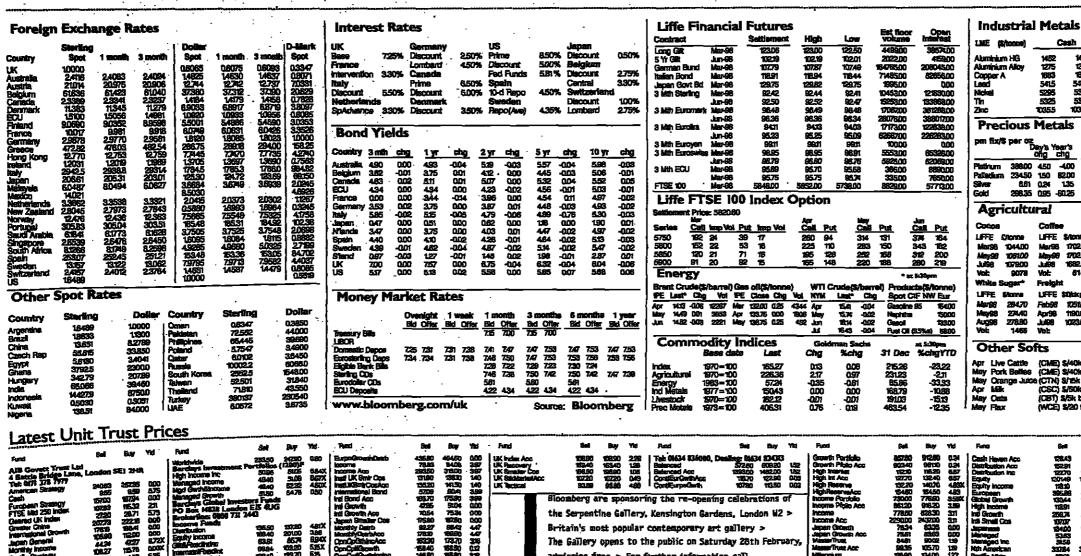
More recently he has been actively involved in filling Tesco stores with lots of orange-coloured booths, in which shoppers are enlightened as to the delights of the Tesco Club Card.

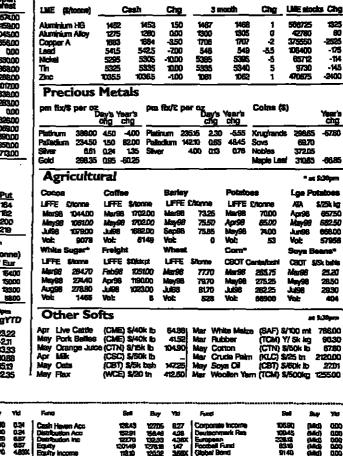
Calluna, a Fife-based maker of hard disk drives, has appointed Ian King as group managing director with effect from this month. George Elliot, currently director of production at Calluna, has been appointed finance director, following the resignation of Donald Macsald from that post, the company said.

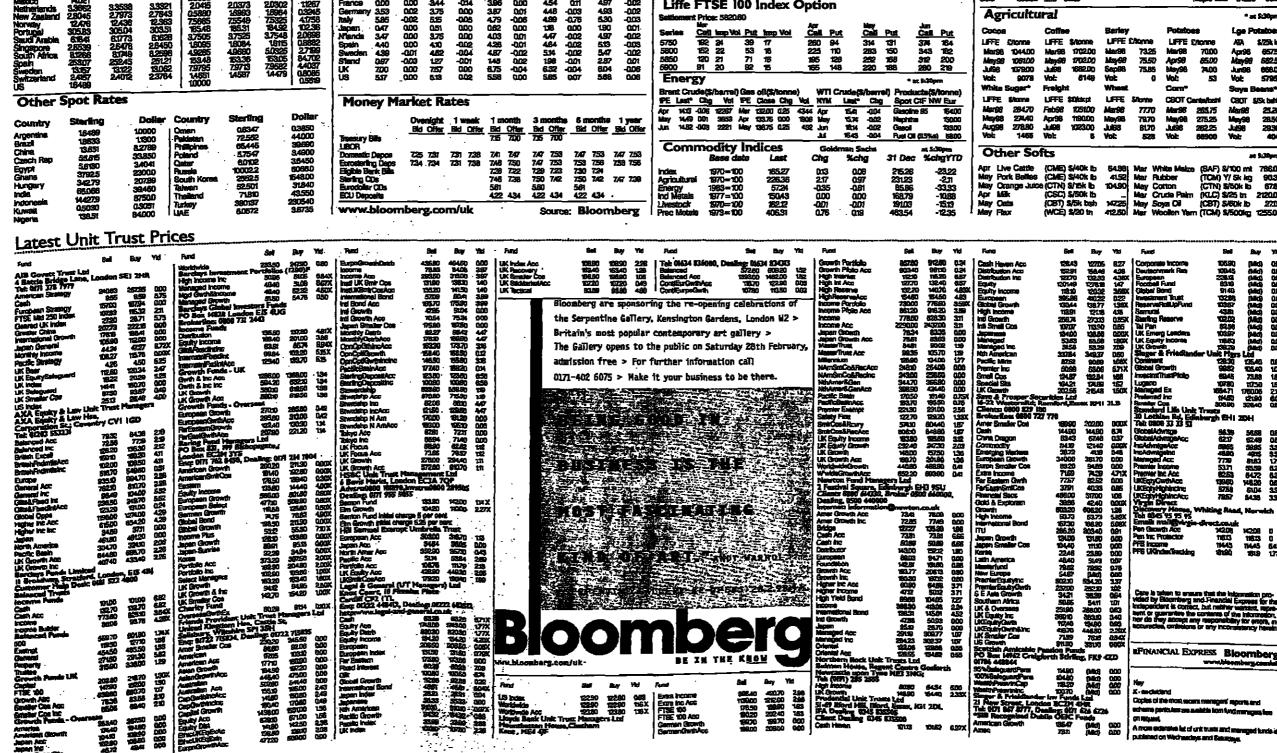
Full Circle Industries said William Rooney resigned as chairman with effect from today. Alan Bell, currently chief executive, becomes executive chairman, it added.

Mr Rooney, who owns 21.13 per cent of the issued share capital of Full Circle, and his children's settlements, which hold another 17.9 per cent, have told the company that these "are long-term shareholdings and will be retained".

The company said Peter Wood, managing director of the kitchen division, is to join the







Matador Mayock back in the running

Barnsley's golden boy from the European Indoor Championships shows the same Yorkshire steel as his mentor, says Simon Turnbull

garage can expect an urgent visit this morning. "I've got a sponsored car." he said yesterday as he prepared to head home from Spain, "which has my name and 'going for gold' on the side. I'll have to change it now to 'got gold'."

The Barnsley man with the golden hair and, since Sunday night, a senior international medal to match, paused to chuckle. Then he added: "Maybe I should have John Mayock, Spanish matador' written on it. too."

Mayock has always been an affable fellow; too affable. his critics might have said. But in winning the final race of the European Indoor Championships on Sunday night be became the new driving force for British middle-distance running in the manner of a Michael Schumacher.

There was even an official protest lodged against him after the men's 3,000 metres final, questioning his part in the jockeying for pole position that marked the race. But the inquisition on behalf of the three Spaniards left trailthe final 120m was never middle-distance tradition likely to overturn the result.

The Valencians may have jeered on his lap of honour and turned his medal ceremony into a shameful show of bad-losership but the assertive way in which the 27-year-old executed his victory was as impressive as the win itself. Mayock's was the kind of aggressive, tactically astute and perfectly legitimate run last seen in a British middle-distance man in the form of another red-haired son of South Yorkshire at the tail end of the golden British era.

As he stood cheering at the

Elliott must have felt he was hefore his eyes. He certainly saw the kind of Yorkshire steel with which he forged his own reputation as the 'tough of the

to be gladdened by the sight. Elliott was appointed Britain's middle-distance coach at the turn of the year. And since ending a running career that

ing as Mayock sped clear in Mayock Britain's new force in a rich

and Olympic and World Championship silver the retired Rotherham Harrier has been acting as coaching adviser to Mayock, who was yesterday named in the British team for the short, 4km race in the World Cross-Country Championships in Marrakesh later this month. Their relationship almost came to an end two months ago when Mayock, a part-time sports Brigade were required to get development officer with Barnsley's golden boy to the Staffordshire Council, ignored Elliott's advice and ran in the middle-distance event in the

JOHN MAYOCK'S local side of the Luis Puig track, Peter Durbam Cross-Country meeting. Instead, the spat they had watching his old self flash in the North-east mud that day has brought them closer together - and instilled Mayock with the resolve that has made him, seven years after his track'. And he had good reason 5,000m success in the World Student Games, a gold medal winner at senior international level.

"I didn't want John to run." Elliott reflected yesterday. "He was half a stone overweight and he was just there for the money. We had words. But his attitude changed after that."

"It did upset me," Mayock said, "It took a couple of weeks to clear the air. But I knew I needed to get my backside into gear.'

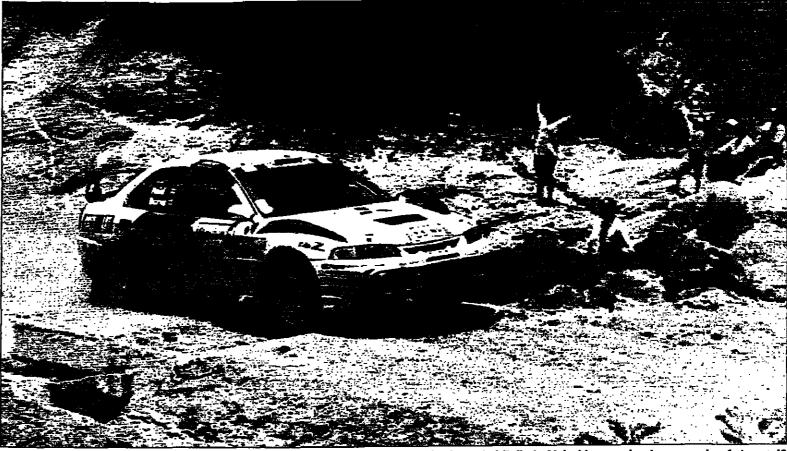
Even before Mayock's breakthrough on Sunday, Elliott had been given a rear view of his prodigy in the British alltime ranking list for 1500m. The 3min 31.86sec Mayock recorded in Brussels last August moved him to fourth place, behind Steve Cram. Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett but ahead of his mentor.

That it was good enough for only eighth position in a grand prix race confirms that time and times have not stood still. "Middle-distance running has moved on since my day," Elliott acknowledged.

"and it hasn't been easy for

John. having to follow Coe, Ovett, Cram and myself." Britain's golden tradition has not been the only thing to which Mayock has been shackled. Elliott left him handcuffed to a park bench on his stag night in November. The services of the South Yorkshire Fire

> GB team for Marrakesh Digest, page 27



Richard Burns negotiates his Mitsubishi around a corner on his way to victory in the Safari Rally in Nairobi yesterday, by a margin of almost 10 minutes. It was Burns' first world championship victory, and only the third time a British driver has ever won this event

Wigan and St Helens paired in last eight of Challenge Cup

Rugby League

By Dave Hadfield

WIGAN and St Helens, opponents so often in knock-out rugby over recent years, have been drawn together again in the quarter-finals of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

Saints, the holders for the

past two years, must concede home advantage to Wigan. favourites for this year's competition. The London Broncos turn to Britain in September, have the plum draw, at home to the one surviving team from the First Division, Hull Kingston Rovers, whose neighbours,

Huli, must go to Salford. Castleford, the conquerors of Leeds and Bradford, are at home to Sheffield who, like London, are in the last eight for

The Rugby League has complained to the BBC over the vs. Helens (Ties to be played 14 or 15 Merch).

snubbing of the sport on Saturday night. The tie between Castleford and Bradford was the centrepiece of Grandstand but was ignored in the sports round-up on both main BBC1 news bulletins. The League has received a number of adverse comments about the BBC and its broadcast manager. Dave Callaghan, is to take up the mat-

ter with the corporation. The former Great Britain coach, Malcolm Reilly, is to reending his successful association with the Newcastle Knights. Reilly has decided to come home to be near his elderly parents, news that will interest several Super League clubs, in particular St Helens, whose coach, Shaun McRae, is due to end his contract this year.

SELK CUT CHALLENGE CUP Quarter

Fruitful gamble in the park

Tennis By John Roberts

AS the recipient of \$128,000 (£80,000) after winning the inaugural Guardian Direct Cup in Battersea Park on Sunday, Yevgeny Kafelnikov made all the right noises, hitting the tent peg on the head by saying: "Nobody knows what to expect from a tournament that is being held for the first time."

There were no tent pegs, as it happened, which was perhaps the first pleasant surprise for spectators led to believe that London's first indoor ATP Tour event for eight years was going to be some sort of Barnum and Bailey enterprise.

The temporary arena complex proved to an impressive innovation, blessed, it must be said, with clement weather except on two occasions when high winds flapped the plastic roofing and tested the metal supports.

But for the advent of Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman as pillars of the British game, the tournament would not have been conceived. Their particination was interesting while it lasted. Rusedski arrived after winning the Antwerp title and was unable to convert either of his match points against Germany's Marc-Kevin Goellner in the first round. Henman, who ended a run of five consecutive

British No 2 ought to have won. The organisers, who gambled in acquiring the date of the former Milan event for three years, were encouraged by the public's response (a total attendance of 35,000, and a near capacity 4,800 on the Centre Court on both Saturday and Sunday), and noted the lessons to be learned, which included the late night scheduling of the Henman-

Krajicek match on Tuesday.

OVERALL SCORE CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST - 22FEBRUARY

defeats by beating Richard

Krajicek, lost to Kafelnikov in

the third round, a match the

In other respects the attention to detail in creating a spectator-friendly indoor event away from the customary venues was impressive, not least the free shuttle bus service to and from Sloane Square.

The carpet courts, laid on wood, generally suited the big servers, but did not impede Kafelnikov's all-court game. "There is no doubt that the people who are working at this tournament have done a good job." the Russian said. "The one thing that bothered me was the noise from the airplanes." One or two of his fellow players who departed early might have disagreed, appreciating

reasonably close at hand. Greg Rusedski scored a remarkable victory in the first round of the ATP Tour event in Rotterdam vesterday, beat Karim Alami of Morocco 6-7 7-6 7-6 in a 2hr 20min match without a service break.

reminders that Heathrow was



Today we publish the updated results of The Independent Fantasy Football League. The league table includes all scores up to from all games played until February 22nd. FA Cup. Congratulations to Mr N Peet from North Yorkshire who's team Kim's Tigers is this months winner. Mr Peet wins a pair of tickets to Englands next home international.

Every time one of your players score you get four points. There are four points for a keeper or a defender every time their team keeps a clean sheet. If a player scores the winning goal. February 22nd. The player list includes scores i.e.: if there is a one goal difference in the scoreline, the player scoring the final goal for the winning team is awarded 1 Neither set of scores includes results from the hours point awarded in addition to standard goal related points. Each successful Assist, a pass judged by our experts to lead directly to a goal, will give a player 3 points. The opinion of our experts on the matter is final. Each player selected and lowing Sunday in the Independent on Sunday. starting a game will be awarded one point.

If a player is given a Yellow Card they lose 1 point, if a player is given a Red Card they lose 3 points. Own goals, either scored or conceded, do not count.

The Premiership Manager that you choose will be award-3 points if their real-life team wins, 1 point is awarded if they draw and no points are given if they lose.

Updated player scores and league tables will be published every Tuesday in The Independent and repeated the fol-

HOW TO SCORE -1 yekin car enager's team was

Independent Fantasy Football

LEAGUE TABLE

CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST - 22 FEBRUARY

Mr D Baker Mr D Evans Mr D Sari Mr D Aston Mr D Edmington Mr T Lyons Miss L Wild Mr Archer Mr S Scott Mr J Hayes Mr D Baker Mr I Brown **市和科利的名词名的名词名以及未来未见** Mr A Choudi Mr Brady Mr D Ackroyd Mr S Walker Mr M Ewins Mr G Bell Mr M Ewins Mr A Mitchell Mr S Aston Mr G Ford

Mr J McCrossam

Mr K Boyle Mr M Ward

Mr G Bell Mr S Man Mr R Steer

Mr C Thomas

Mr T Brazier

Mr P Tufler

Seeking Victory Pins Up 4 Deja Vu Boothen End Olds Boys Southville FC Simply The Best Billy Boy's 2nd 11 Edmo United Tony's Boy's Diana's Demon Amerrretto AFC No Wright Unbeatble Early Birds Washed Up Army Dead Heat The Hoofers Nikies 9th 11 Look Lively Jack Lads Robert's Raiders Daniel's United Mikes C Team Stunning Stunts I've Started But Will I Finish The Eye For It Billy Boys 3rd 11 Linthorpe Rovers Retro Rovers Washed Up Army Clogston Rovers Team A 40 Scunthrope Extras The Hairy Monsters Rebecca Rovers Steer 2 **Wow For Short**

679 Sharpe 680 Ribeiro 683 Hazhand 684 Partner 685 Taylor 686 Ezett 687 Leunon 688 Guppy 693 McMonas 694 Thomas 695 Leunon 698 Keans 696 Gigs 697 Beckham 698 Keans 699 Bait 700 Poborski 700 Poborski 701 Leu 702 Beartsley 705 Cillespie 706 Beartsley 707 Kestvara 708 Binner 708 Hanglior 708 Vallining 707 Vallining 707 Vallining 708 Rox 708 Potock 709 Vallining 709 Fear 709 Horosk 700 Poborski 701 Vallining 702 Vallining 703 Catolor 705 Ciaola 705 Vallining 707 Vallining 708 Rox 709 Horosk 700 Vallining 700 Potock 700 Vallining 700 Potock 700 Vallining 700 Va COALKEEPERS Lunderwan
Scales
Campbell
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303 Lukie
304 Manninger
305 Bosnich
306 Calzes
307 Wasson
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310 Filan
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315 Filan
315 Grodas
315 Grodas
316 Flower
317 Hedman
318 Nash
319 Day
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400 Michael
401 Coleman
401 Fendry
400 Kentag
400 Henchor
450 Valety STRIKERS

Dunwoody to ride I'm Supposin

THE good omens continued to Champion Hurdle day, which at woody on his Champion accumulate around I'm Sup- present seems unlikely to be any contender. Durwoody has partposin yesterday when Richard slower than good. A sound surnered Grey Shot on all three of Dunwoody was confirmed as face should suit I'm Supposin. his outings over hurdles, which the big-race rider on a horse but detract from the chance of who is now as short as 5-1 for both Istabraq, who may be the Champion Hurdle at Chel-more of a two-and-a-half miltenham in exactly a fortnight's er, and Dato Star, who has time. I'm Supposin ran away shown all his best form with with the Kingwell Hurdle at plenty of give. Wincanton last Thursday, and the form of that performance at 14-1 for Cheltenham immewas franked just two days later diately after his success at Winwhen Master Beveled finished canton, but is now the 5-1

posin, Richard Dunwoody has effectively turned down the chance to partner either Grey Shot or Sanmartino in the timber championship, so there can be little doubt that the message firmed that Richard will ride I'm found dead on Sunday. Supposin at Cheltenham, and he's very much looking for- firmed: "He was found dead by jockey's agent, said yesterday. We don't know when he died ous victory in the race, on mortem and an inquest." Kribensis in 1990.

Leicester

2.20 Pepitist

3.20 Winnow

Blazer at Haydock.

I'm Supposin was available an excellent second to Red second favourite with Ladbrokes. The best price at pre-In opting to ride I'm Sup- sent is 6-1, with Coral.

Dunwoody may also have Grey Shot, had no idea yester- at Cheltenham if the going is race, the Tote Gold Trophy at only won a length and a half but considered the likely going on day who might replace Dun-good or faster."

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Amico (Lingfield 4.40) NB: Crabbie's Pride (Catterick 3.30)

have brought two victories and a 14-length defeat by French Holly in a Grade One contest at Sandown in January. "All I know is that it won't be Richard Dunwoody," Balding said. "The

cloud the Champion Hurdle right now, he's 100 per cent," picture yesterday when Ted Walsh said. "I was disappoint-Walsh, trainer of last year's Tri- ed with him at Newbury as he manche Court, warned punters bad run doesn't make a summer that his golding is not certain to and it doesn't change your ing's greatest race, and will be line up for the race.

"He's in the Stayers' Hurdle as well and we will make a de-however, for Lonesome Glory, cision nearer the time," Walsh said. "He's rated some way behind the Champion Hurdle horses and not too many Tri- Flat in Virginia two days ago. Glory's first since winning the umph Hurdle winners go on to win the race."

Ian Balding, the trainer of borse is fine, but he will only run second-favourite for his last ry's trainer, said yesterday. "He America's best chaser for the

Newbury last month, but could he never wins very far. It was a A further doubt emerged to finish only eighth. "He's all very good performance because the going was a little softer than he likes." The 10-year-old will be staumph Hurdle winner Com- couldn't cope with it but one bled with Peter Chapple-Hyam during his preparation for chas-

plans that much." There is a definite plan. the best chaser in the United States, who is on course for the win a top-class steeplechase. Gold Cup after a victory on the Sunday's outing was Lonesome "He won well on Sunday and we Colonial Cup at Camden in Nowere really pleased with him," Commanche Court started Bruce Miller, Lonesome Glo- him the Eclipse Award as

> "The Gold Cup is a big challenge, but he has done everything over here so we are hoping he can do something over there," Miller said. Ladbrokes, however, believe otherwise, and offer 100-1 against Lonesome Glory winning the He was a founder commen-

comment until today at the earliest on the outcome of dis-Gilbert a also provided ra- cussions held yesterday into dio voice-overs and mock com- matters arising from the Top

vember, a victory which earned

fourth time.

By lan Davies

KADASTROF is a top-priced 7-1 for the Arkle Trophy with Ladbrokes and the Tote following his easy win at Kempton on Saturday, while Edelweis Du Moulin is generally 8-1 - although Ladbrokes go only 5-1 - after scoring at Haydock.

Buddy Marvel is a toppriced 16-1 with Ladbrokes for the Trumph Hurdle after beating older rivals in Kempton's ridden at Cheltenham - as Dovecote Novices' Hurdle, ever, by Miller's daughter, Blythe, who will be attempting while Buckhouse Boy is a best to be the first woman jockey to the Stayer's Hurdle after his em- on course for Cheltenham.

phatic success in the Rendiesham Limited Handicap Hurdle at the Sunbury venue.

. The Grey Monk is out to 10-1 with Coral and Ladbrokes for the Gold Cup following the trainer Gordon Richards announcement that his horse is only "50-50" to run in the race. while Strong Promise is 33-1 with Coral after going down to Go Ballistic in the Jim Ford

Chase at Wincanton. Cool Dawn is 33-1 with William Hill and Ladbrokes after the trainer Robert Alner priced 16-1 with Ladbrokes for announced the horse was back

Arkle Trophy	y (Novi	ce) Chas	e (2m)	
Horse (liainer)	Consi	Walter High	Lacibrokee	Tobs
Champiose (M Pips)	11-2	7-1	6-1	11-2
Direct Route (J. Howard Johnson)	6-1	53-2	7-1	7-1
Kadestrof (R Distin)	6-1	6-1	7-1	7-1
Edelwels Du Moolin (G Ficherds)	8-1	8-1	5-1	8-1
Wade Road (Max H Kright)	7-1	7-1	8-1	8-1
HE Society (N Mesclelif)	10-1	10-1	8-1	9-1
Cylor Make (M Pipe)	12-1	B-1	doubtful	9-1
Lake Keribe (P Nichold)	14-1	141	14-1	12-1
Crack On (P Hobbs)	29-1	14-1	16-1	14-1
Queen Of Species (N Twiston-Device)	12-1	14-1	20-1	14-1
Each-way a quarter the odds,	p isces , 1, 2,	3 (Challenherr, 7	Uesday 17 March)	

Horse (Trainer)	Const	William I Co.	Ladbrokes	Total
Interferace (A P O'Brienylis)	7-2	7-2	3-1	7-2
fin Supposts (A Rose)	6-1	5-1	.5-1	5-1
Dato Star (J M Jefferson)	8-1	6-1	6-1	7-1
Shedow Leader (C Egerton)	8-1	7-1	8-1	7-1
Grisses (C Roche/M)	14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1
Collier Bay (J Cld)	16-1	20-1	20-1	20-1
Francis Holly (F Murphy)	15-1	20-1	*10-1	20-1
Kennet (N Teislon-Davies)	16-1	25-1	15-1	20-1
Relition (D Nicholson)	25-1	20-1	25-1	25-1
Grey Shot (* Bakirg)	33-1	33-1	33-1	20-1

Triump	th Hurd	le (2m l	Ŋ.	
Home (Italier)	Consi	William Hill	Ladbrokes	Total
Zafarabad (D Nicholson)	4-1	74	7-2	7-2
City Hall (Mrs V Ward)	14-1	ઇ -1	12-1	12-1
Reinweich (M Pipe)	14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1
Booldy Marvel (O Sherwood)	10-1	14-1	16-1	12-1
Darapour (A P O'Brien/M)	10-1	74-1	12-1	16-1
irota County Xitees (D Welcife)	14-1	16-1	16-1	12-1
Reinbour Frontier (M Pipe)	16-1	16-1	18-1	14-1
Executive Decision (M Graenick/hl)	20-1	16-1	14-1	20-1
Snow Dragon (N Meade/kl)	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1

Cheitenham Go	dd Cup (Chase (3r	n 2f II0yds)	
Horse (Trainer)	Coral	Willem 120	Ladbrokss	Total
See More Bosiness (P Nichols)	3-1	7-2	7-2	8-1
Dorane Printe (M Hourigan/h)	4-1	4-1	1-2	4-1
The Grey Monk (G Richards)	16-1	8-1	10-1	8-1
Samy Bay (C Brooks)	10-1	11-1	8-1	11-1
Cyburgo (M Pipe)	10-1	12-1	12-1	12-1
Addington Boy (G Richards)	20-1	29-1	20-1	8-1
Rough Quest (T Casey)	16-1	20-1	16-1	16-1
Challenger Du Luc (M Pipe)	25-1	25-1	25-1	25-1
Cool Desm (R Alast)	25-1	. 33-1	33-1	25-1
Go Balliello (J O'Shed)	33-1	25-1	25-1	25-1
Strong Promine (G Hubbard)	33-1	251	25-1	25-1
Each way a quarter the odd	is, piaces. 1, 2,	Chellenham, T	humday 19 March)	

		_			
Stayers' Hurdle (3m If)					
Horse (Trainer)	Comi	William HE	Ladbrokes	Tota	
Packly's Return (F Musphy)	11-4	8-1	5-2	94	
Ocean Hawk (N Trision-Devies)	5-1	6-1	5-1	9-2	
Marello (Mrs M Revoley)	10-1	10-1	12-1	12-1	
Mighty Moss (D Nerobort)	12-1	8-1	8-1	B-1	
Go-Informal (J M Jefferson)	8-1	12-1	12-1	14-1	
Lord Jim (J Okt)	12-1	-10-1	12-1	14-1	
Prikineli (M Pipe)	doubthi	12-1	14-1	12-1	
Buckhouse Boy (D Nicholson)	12-1	14-1	16-1	12-1	
Karabi (Mas H Kright)	10-1	14-1	16-1	12-1	
Splendid Thyras (f Casey)	12-1	12-1	14-1	16-1	
Elimany (C Mervi)	16-1	20-1	25-1	25-1	

Such-way a quarter the ockle, places, 1, 2, 3 (Challarham, Thursday, 19 March)

TV commentator Raleigh Gilbert dies

which passed down the reins last THE racing commentator ebrate his 62nd birthday last Sat-moving to the Sunday Post in hound racing and even polo. He Thursday was an extremely pos- Raleigh Gilbert has died. A urday, had missed his latest in- Britain. itive one. "It has now been con- broadcaster for 40 years, he was

His brother Geoffrey con- ary. ward to it," Robert Parsons, the the police at about 3.00pm. The jockey has just one previ- and there will have to be a post-

Gilbert, who was due to cel-

HYPERION

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

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2.20 PICKWELL NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) \$4,000 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,626

9st 8b., Sands Poist 8st 42.
BETTINEZ-2-Pepilist, 4-1 Bagaline, 5-1 High Mood, 6-1 Elsus, 8-1 Clostoura, 10-1 Master Mario,
Two For One, 12-1 Super Repier, Seem Street, 14-1 Deep Refrain, 16-1 Milling Brook, Royal Pot Black, 20-1 others 1957: Red Branch 8 10 0 J Cultoly 4-1 (J King) 13 ran FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE
PEPTIST had been off the track more than two years when third behind Ingletonian and Prince Of Saints at Carliste on 30 December - beeten three parts of a length and a short-head - and he came home by seven lengths at Bangor 19 days ago despite a side jump at the lest. There is better still to come from Micky Hammonds charge and he can follow up off a 7to higher mark. Bagailino, twice a hurdles winner in his younger days for Nick Henderson's stable and a dual point scorer in 1997, firished a remote fourth behind

Into The Clan when making his debut over regulation fends at Windsor in December and he was a faller next time. However, Bagalino did much better when a rine-length timt to Gratomi at Hersford and he is another likely to progress. High Mood, who landed two of his first times races this season, at Wetherby and Uttoxitist, took a crashing fall at the first in Cepenwray's race at Wincarrino last time but could pose a threat provided his confidence has not been undermined. Eleaus, successful in his first two races this season, at Taunton and Windsor in November, was talled off when pulled up before four out in the Wincarrion race and suffered the same talled off when pulled up before four out in the Wincarrion race and suffered the same talle there next time while he was last of three finishers to Swing Quartet at Sandown last time.

2.50 DRAGON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 7f 110yds Penalty Value £3,561

3.50 Ramallah

4.20 Trouvaille

tended commentating shift at He began his broadcasting Wolverhampton on 21 Febru- career in 1958 with Racecourse

Gilbert rode as an amateur in every racecourse in the country. Kenya in the 1950s and started in journalism as racing corre- the BBC in the early 1970s be-Field And Farm in 1956 before whom he also reported on grey-

3.20 SYSTON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,431

- 10 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Winnow, 7-2 High Laerie, 4-1 Who Am I, 11-2 Alter The Fox, 7-1 Cavaira Boy, 8-1

1897: Lance Amestrong 7 ft 11. D Fortt (5) 11.4 the (6) McCourt 7 ftm.

PORMI GUIDE

After gaining victories at Taunton and Hereford in December, WINNOW was behind when pulled up before four out in Capeowray's race at Wincarston in January but she ran much bester last time in fitshing a stree-length second to Gratzon at Hereford. She can return to winning form here. Who Am I was well back in fourth when he fell times out in the Wincarston heat after a distant second to Sh Danie at Folloetone and he was besten 28 lengths when runner up to Fully at Lingfield. High Learnie, who went he at Hunsingdon in November, was besten 18 lengths by Regamuff at Folloetone in January but ran Deer Do to a length at Fontwell times weeks ago and goes off the same mark here. After The Fox socred twice at Taunton last term and, following a fourth (of the firsters) to Pennyfortige

and-a-helf-length third, Jason's Boy, Nam Mood finished a well beaten tourt inglord Gale at Windsor 10 days ago but will be sharper for that race - his firs length-and-a-half second to Chicksbiddy at Fontwall in October. Selection: V

| AC-PP | ROCKET RIM (85) (D) [Petr J S Russell Mess L Russell 10 to 10.
| 171-44 AFTER THE FOX (80) (D) [A N Brooks Revisid N Haude 11 to 9.
| 44622 | HIGH LEMRE (22) [Edward Harvey] A H Harvey 8 to 1 .
| 44622 | HIGH LEMRE (22) [Edward Harvey] A H Harvey 9 to 1 .
| 44623 | HIGH LEMRE (22) [Edward Harvey] A H Harvey 9 to 1 .
| 44624 | HIGH LEMRE (22) [Edward Harvey] A H Harvey 9 to 1 .
| 44624 | HIGH LEMRE (23) (C) (Nes M K Hodder) E L James 10 to 1 .
| 44624 | HIGH CHARLES (13) (D) (M E James) J M Bradey 8 to 12 .
| 44624 | HIGH CHARLES (13) (D) (M E James) D O Neil 12 to 1 .
| 54700 | KATE'S JOKER (18) (J Russel) O O Neil 12 to 1 .
| 144700 | GOOD FOR A LOAM (15) (D) (T M J Carry) R Lee to 10 1

Jacon's Boy, 10-1 liter: Mood, 12-1 Rocket Ran, 29-1 others 1997: Lance Armstrong 7 11 11. D Fortt (8) 11-8 fav (G McCourt) 7 ran

Technical Services and became Walter Raleigh Willock the first man to commentate at

Gilbert worked briefly for spondent for the East African fore moving in 1972 to ITV, for

staved with the Channel 4 team until 1996.

tator with Satellite Information Gold Cup.
Services in 1987, covering the THE Jockey Club will not Chester Cup on the day the service was launched.

mentaries for television dramas. Cees libel case.

FORM GUDE

With only five modest rivals taking him on, it looks as though RAMALLAH need only put in a clear round to follow up lest month's flowcester success when he best subsequent Sandown scene Swing Quartet eight lengths, Hannietta Knights charge was twice a hurdles whriter the season before last and was placed in both starts when switched to the larger obstacles in 1996-97. Ramalish ran as if in need of the race on his first two cutings this tarm, both times dropping out in the closing stages. Second best may be winning point-to-pointer Bandaros, whose best run from times chastes last season was a Heshen third to Scrabo View in October. He has been confined to hurdling since, whring at Carliele in January at Newcastle on his return, though he was pulled up next time and well besten on his tetest run. Janny Pitmaris Macmachas, who makes his debut over regulation fances, was a dual winner between the flags in 1995 and will be straighter for his recent run behind Bullens Bay over timber at Chepstow.

Selection: RAMALLAH

l	<u>4.20</u>	2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,132	
		SHEKELS (67) (D) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Stocks 7 11 8	l
2	462F1	TROUVALLE (10) (D) (Stainless Threeded Fasteners Ltd) A Turnel 7 11 8 M Griffetin (7)	
		COTTAGE COUNSEL (11) (Galagher Equine Lick) Mrs L. Jewell 6 11 2	
		CROCKHANCHILL (65) (Min C Kelly) K Britgweter 7 ft 2	ŀ
		GO FOR THE DOCTOR (7) (\$ L Edwards) B McMatton 8 1+ 2	
		RAFTERS (10) (D) (M B Carves) J M Bradley 9 1: 2	
		RELKANDER (16) (Mrs Maureen Buckley) Mrs J Pilmen 8 11. 2	ı
8	00-234	STORPIN (16) (Marin Broughter) Mas H Kright 7 ft 2	,
		- 8 declared -	ì
10	CTTRIC:	C 4 Chanada C 4 Terreralla 4.1 Chabata D 4 Coltana 16.4 Calbrander 28.4 Cattana Cara.	

1997: Wild West Wind 7 11 8 J Culloty 11-8 (Mass H Knight) 5 ran

PORME (SUIDE STOMPRIL, who goes for this in preference to the 450 - a handicap in which he was on 12st - can record his first success over the major obtacles. A useful hundler - his vicio-ries included the velupide handicap at Afrire on Grand Netional day two years ago - Stompin has shaped well over tences. Besten a length and a half by Gale Tol at Ludlow just before Cartetmes, he was a four-length third to Kadashort at Kempton. Stompin ran less well in fourth to Mcon Devil at Newbury, where he faded to be besten 16 lengths, but this is a much weeter contest. Trouvallle, a length-and-a-quarter second behind Grundon at Ludlow in November on its second attempt over fences, was an early osuseity at Wincanton on Bosing Day but came home by five lengths from previous winner and hot fesouths John Drursn at Window 10 days age and should confine to Improve. Shelasis index all to score by four lengths on his chasing bow at Kempton in November and was in front only to fail two out at Cheltenham ten days afterwards. He was behind when pulled up on a return to Kempton on Bosing Day but could prove troublesome it back to his best.

4.50 OAKHAM HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added

L		2 2m 1f Penary Value £3,197
1	034331	DEAR DO (22) (C.J Edwards) N Hendarson 11 11 10
		THE CARROT MAN (13) (D) (Exces Mrs. J Wirkworth) P Wirkworth 10 11 10 J. Appell (3)
3	325	LUCKY SDOE (297) (D) (BP) (L Shaw) F Hobbs 7 ti 1
4	533140	ASTRAL BNASION (18) (CD) (E Weetman, Payrolds and Dean) T. Wall 7 to 11 LR Johnson B
5	F1-8F6	SLEAZEY (33) (D) (J G ORNAI) J ORNAI 7 10 11
		FLANDING MIRACLE (7) (J C Brackury) G Bernett 8 10 10R Fernant B
		PLAY GAMES (81) (0) (BF) (J O Besker) R Lee 10 10 0
		~7 declared =

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Play Games Set 8th.
BETTING: 9-4 Deer Do. 3-1 Autoal Inneation, 4-1 The Carrot Man, 8-1 Fluxing Minacie, 11-2 Locky
Eddis, 7-1 Play Games, 14-1 Sieszey
1997: Scottish Bertist 9-2

FORM GUIDE

Now that he has finally returned to winning form after going almost two years without success, it could pay to now in with DEAR DO. He scored in game style by a langth from High Learle at Fontwell three weeks ago and he is only 2b higher today. He acts on a test surface. Before that, bear Do had Steazy a long way actifit when third to Stera Bay and Pegmarine at Hurtingdon and he meets this fired only 2b worse. The Carrot Man could do no better than a 17-length fifth to Morstock at Lingfield two weeks ago but can be expected to improve considerably on that run — his first since a 10-length third behind Robins Price at Wincanton on Boxing Day. Another fair effort was its second, at 14 lengths, to Prate Box at Chepstow in November on his return

Selection: DEAR DO

Catterick

HYPERION 2.00 Alcalali (nb) 2.30 Count Karmuski 3.00 Fryup Satellite 3.30 Lislaughtin Abbey 4.00 What Jim Wants 4.30 Prince Of Saints 5.00

GOING: Good to Firm. Striding house, Run-In 240yd.

@Course is NW of town on A6136. Darlington station Him - bus service to course, ADMISSIONs Club 211; Tatterselts £7; Course \$2250 (under tils free into all enclosures). CAR PARK: Reserved

2250 (Urber Tiste II in a licholaure). CAN Parker Peserved area E2, remainder Frea. eLEADBNG TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 21-98 (214%), M Hammond F-125 (12%), Mrs 8 Smith 11-80 (138%), K Morgan 10-42 (238%), eLEADBNG JOCKEYS: P Niven 27-96 (231%), R Gernity 18-99 (182%), A 5 Smith 13-78 (167%), A Dobbin 13-102 (127%), e/FAVOURITIES: 156-372 (109%), BLINGERED FIRST TIME: Royal Crimson (Mored) (300), Source (330).

2.00 WENSLEY NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS F) \$2,500 added filles & mares 2m

— 11 declared —
Minimum weight: 10st Time Pandicap weights: Delightion 9st 12th, SpringBelt Physics 9st 7th, July Sevaled 9st 4th,
BETTING: 11-6 Alexand, 5-2 Busive Star, 4-1 Down The Yard, 10-1 Appearamos Minney, 12-1 Most Wanted, Reg Dolf, 25-1 Delightion, Gauthy
Hampackad, 33-1 others

HYPERION

2.10 Quiet Arch 2.40 Tangerine Flyer 3.10 Sever-

ity 3.40 Herr Trigger 4.10 PHILOSOPHIC (nap)

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low in sprints.

QLahl-hand course with Equitrack surface.

QCourse is SE of town on B2028. Linglised station adjoins course.

ADMISSION: TED CAR PARK: Cub 13; rest free.

QLEADING TRAINERS: Q L Moore 79-65 (125%), M Johnston S1-287

(175%), Lord Humtingdon 40-212 (189%), R O'Suffiren 37-286 (125%).

QLEADING JOCKEYS: A Clark 70-560 (125%), S Sanders S2-4-1-

@LEADING JOCKEYS: A Clark 70-560 (125%), S Sanders 59-544 (108%), J Culini 34-631 (54%), Dean McKeown 21-133 (158%).

2.10 SHAKESPEARE AMATEUR RIDERS' HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,750 added 1m

LINKERED FIRST TIME: Midnight Times (visored) (240).

Lingfield

GORNG: Slow (All-weather track)

STALLS: inside, except Ym (outside).

FAVOURITES: 710-2138 (33.2%)

4.40 Zalotto

2.30 E.B.F. 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (QUALI-FIER) (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 9 06/03 MALHABA (23) R Hollesteed 9 103 P Hoday (3) 10 38405 RAVIGON-HADLEY (25) S Campion 8 102 Michael Systems (3)

50 JUST HUSH (45) R Abon 5 109 . BETTING: 15-8 To-Day To-Day, 5-2 Count Kennanid, 9-2 Spoofs My Game 6-1 Brother Harry, 8-1 Arctic Atlair, 12-1 Tale Bridge, 14-1 Little Waste

3.00 MALTON NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 3f COFFLIS ABSOLUTE FOLLY (75) Min S Smith 6 11 2

3.30 RIPON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) \$2,000 added 2m 3f

8 12251 BON GUEST (5) (C) Mass B Sanders 4 10 7 Mass L Steem (5) 1

9 35696 GUDE PATH (11) (8P) J. Jerico B 10 1 _ Dr M Manociah (3) 3 10 06045/ DESERT HARVEST (819) J. Culinon 8 10 0 _______Mine Sharon Walker (7) 13

- 15 deciared -

BETTING: 5-1 Harlis, 6-1 Quiet Arch, 13-2 Bon Gesest, 7-1 Evezio Rute, Noset Native, Rojah, 10-1 Glide Path, Head Gardoner, 12-1 Nycaotis, Zamelek, 14-1 Transfee, Diggest, 25-1 others

2.40 TENNYSON CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £3,750 added 5f

1 -45428 RANISEY HOPE (12) (CD) C Fairburs 59 to C Lowbur (2) 1 Y

4 DOS-3 VILLAGE NATIVE (SR) (D) K Curringham-Brown 5 9 8... A Chart 4 B

7 01-12 TANGERNE FLYER (10) (CD) (BP) J Berry 38 19. P Roberts (2) 3

8 0400-0 MERRIGHT TIMES (25) D OBnet 489 G Bardwell 9 Y

9 06000- LADY RALPHINA (151) J British 3 7 10... - 9 declared -

31-342 FREEKOLY BRAVE (45) (CO) (8F) Gay Kelloway 8.9 8...

MISTICAL (21) (C) (C) (C) (C) HIS LSHEE 499.A MICCORD (5) 2 V

- 10 deciated -BETTING: 9-4 Fryup Salailla, 11-4 Lest Try, 4-1 Belleevklidden, 6-1 Te-letheth, 8-7 Royal Crisson, 10-1 Insalanti, 20-7 Cadentic Presiden, 25-1 Nagara Sound, Absolute Polty, 40-1 Over Stated 45400 CHARTER (13) W Story 7 to 3

Alternori velgit: 10st. True handioge vergigit: Canonbiabotismed, Gone Away 9st 12b, Spring Cell 9st 11b, Gernolly 9st 10b, Calus Caligute 9st 3b. 8st 17th C-4-1 Crasble's Pride, 9-2 Sousse, 5-1 Malifestand, 6-1 Opera Pan, 8-1 Crossrboo Crosse, 9-1 tilig Fer Gold, 10-1 Reno-D-Hadley, 12-1 Gone Rensy, 14-1 Listengistin Abbey, Belmonal Princess, Tooleton Lady, 20-1 Roy-Mark 11 Chamble 25 4 Selection 4.00 BARTON NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 110yds

— to opsgren — Afriknum weight: 10st. The handloop weights: Derring Flose Set 13th, Eath-mo Kles Set 9th. BETTRHG: 7-2 Cypnes Avenue, 4-1 What Jim Wants, 11-2 Point Reyes, 7-1 Recreitment, 9-1 Emily Joins, 10-1 Ardenber, 12-1 Derring Flose, South-ern Cross, Future's Brader, 16-1 Kalejo, Charter, Gafe Alberd, 20-1 Esti-mo Kles, Thirty Below, 33-1 Arrogent Heir

3.10 COLERIDGE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 2f

223 SOME MIGHT SAY (24) (SF) M Johnston 3 8 5 Deep McKerren 5

BETTING: 4-6 Severity, 9-4 Some Wight Say, 7-1 Anderson, 12-1 High-bury Legend, 25-1 Cool Mile Faille, 50-1 Another Victim

3.40 KEATS HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,000 added 1m 2f

1 0853-5 HEER TRIGGER (21) (C) (D) Dr J Scargil 7 10 0 ... J Quinn 11 B

2 4124 SEA DANCOG (21) (CD) J Broger 59 13 __ R Studiesine (1) 3 321-29 CLASSIC FIND (25) (CD) (SF) Pat Michel 5 9 12 _M Featon 2

- 11 declared -

BETTING: 7-2 Rehash, 4-1 Herr Higger, 5-1 Chekmans Choice, 13-2 See Dezzig, 8-1 Zorbs, 10 Classic Find, Billaddie, 12-1 Confedent, Inchre-tion, 14-1 Renows, 33-1 Poler School

10 3-033 BBLADDIE (14) (CD) R Florer 5 8 7 ______ \$ Senders 9

4 JESOS RENOWN (284) (CD) (BF) Lord Hustingdon 8 9 12.

10 OPO LISLAUGHTM ABBEY (14) J Medie 6 To 1...
2 oPO-R CANONSESOTHERED (85) M Pet 7 To 0...
2 SPOLM GOVERNMENT (25) M Harmond 9 To 0...
4 3000 SPRING CALL (25) C Poggo 8 To 0...
5 POD GENOLLY (17) R Bert 5 To 0...

4.30 GRETA BRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m

5.00 AYSGARTH INTERMEDIATE NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m 53- EASEY BLUE (312) (CD) S Kettlewell 6 11 11 _Bit C Benner (3)
CHASE THE ACE Mas A Margitan 5 11 4 ______ Mr T J Burry (7)
MAGNUM M Soveraby 6 11 4 ______ M H Naughton (5)

●AVRO ANSON is still on course for the Grand Nanal despite being pulled up at Haydock on Saturdayand could be seen out again at Doncaster on Saturday in the Velka Pardubicka Grimthorpe Handicap Chase over three miles two furlongs. Scotton Banks is another Grand National candidate who figures among the entries for the £20,000-added contest.

4.10 SHELLEY HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2m

19 00340 CABCHARGE (LORY (11) T Cerest 4 2 2 ... J Golobed (
11 0050 CABCHARGE (11) W Masson 4 8 0 D R McCel
12 00505 NURLE (11) W Masson 4 8 0 D R McCel
12 00505 PARCHCHARGE (14) J Ulpson 4 7 12 G Burdwell
13 00505 PARCHCHARGE (14) J Liberts 6 7 10 J Outs
14 000-00 CONIC HILL (6) J Rystop 7 7 10 A Polf (6)

- 14 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Philosophic, 9-2 Distant Store, 6-1 Aguarda, Reggie Bud 8-1 English torsider, 10-1 Phylog Colours, Signed And Seeled, 16-1 other 4.40 WORDSWORTH LIMITED STAKES

Results NEWCASTLE

2.20: 1. MCNDRAGON (P Near) 10-1; 2. Statistics 2-1 jt tay; 3. Setting Sun 33-1 12 ran, 2-1 jt tay Och Ah Cartora. 3½, 7. (Mrs M. Peveley, Sattburn). Tota: £8.60; £160, £150, £560. DF. £1400. CSF. £29.23. NR: Moubeed. Tric: £228.10. 2.50: 1, STAN'S YOUR MAN (B Storey) 6-4 lar; 2. Furn Leader 14-1; 3. Hopelul Lord 7-1, 10 ran, 3½, 12. (Mrs.) Goodfellow, Earl-ston). Tote: £2.20; £140, £2.30, £3.40. DF: £3.60. CSF: £2152. Trio: £5440.

3.20: 1. ALY DALEY (E Calaghan) 10-1; 2. Westwell Boy 7-1; 3. Maybe O'Grady 15-8 It tax 8 ran. 15-8 It tax Brighter Stade (8th): Sh-hd, 2%, (I Howard Johnson, Crook). Total: \$1120; \$190, \$190, \$140, DF: \$8150, CSP: \$3957. Tricest: \$17194. 3.50: 1. SIDE BY \$200 [M Poster) 11-1; 2. Klarcham 5-1: 3. Marcia Bay 7-2 for, 13

2. Klerchem 5-1; 3. Maple Bay 7-2 fax. 13 ran. 1⁴/₄, 3. (C Thornton, Middisham). Tota: £930; £150, £250, £220. DF: £2470. CSF: 28184 Tricast £2218 Trio: 28780 NPt Cap-

4.25: 1. CORSTON JOIGER (R Supple) 5-2; 2. River Unahlon 13-8 tev; 3. Profis-ent 5-1.7 ran. 8, 3½. (L Lungo, Carrother-stown), Your \$3.20; \$1.70, \$1.70, DF: \$2.70. CSF: \$702.

4.69: 1. INVEST WISELY IR Gardon 9-1: 4.85:1. INVEST WISELY (F Garmy) 8-1; 2. Daily 8 90; 13-2; 3. Double Agent 6-1 9 ran. 2-1 fev Lintethen (tith) Nr. 2'/s. (Ni Harm-mond. Middleham). Tohe: \$1.50; \$2.40, 52.20; \$2.00. DT: \$25.50. CSF: \$50.75. Tric-ast: \$34.81. Tric: \$34.70. copot: £75%), Quadpot: £11.70.

Place 6: \$4947, Place 5: £1950. PLUMPTON 1.40: 1. TISSUE OF LIES (G Brader) 5-2;

2. Neminto 14-1; 3. Pitzmanice 7-1: 18 rim. 3-8 tav Nordic Crest (5th) 1/4, 1. (J. Aberturst, Upper Lambourn) Tota: 1550; 2:180; 2:30, 2:230. DF: 2:2380. CSF: 2:34,84. Trio: 24740. 2.10: 1. ILE DE LIBRATE (M A Fizger-alt), 4-6 lbr; 2. Hal Hoo Yaroon 7-2; 3. Pura Swing S3-1, 12 san, 7, 2, 6, 053-issn, Wite-combet Tole: \$190; \$120, £150, \$370, OF: \$350, CSF: \$270, Tho: \$2170, NP: Son Of Glan.

2.40: 1. URBAN LILY (J Harris) 15-1; 2. The Executor 5-2; 3. Deriebey 4-1. 12 rm. 7-2 far Mead Court (pulled up). 1, 1%. (R Hodges, Somerton). Tota: \$18.90; £410. £180. DF; £4200. CSF: \$3008. Whose: \$23788. Trics: £1400. NF; Lady Pendragon. 3.10: 1. CALLEVA STAR (A Thomton) 4-1; 2. Amezon Lily 5-2; 3. Esperanza IV 9-4 fav. 8 rán. 3. 4. (R Alnec Blandford Forum). Totae 2380; C120, C10, C120, C7: 55-40, CSF; £1560, NF; Bergnood, Trio; £890.

2.5304 PPE BERONCER, Trio: £850 3.40: 1. PETITE RISK (A P McCoy) 14-1; 2. Verkdan 11-5 tar; 3. Bold Buster 6-1 16 ran, 8, 1 (M Pipe, Wellington), Tota: £820; £250, £10, £250, DF: £810, CSF; £8243, Trio: £8370.

10c: 257.0
4.15: 1. LIV-U-FRANK (A P McCoy) 19-9
fer; 2. Bay Lough 100-30; 3. Call Home 3-1
11 ms. 3, dist (M Pipe, Wellington). Totac
2250; E150; E150; E150 DP: 5520 CSP: 1725.
Tricest: E1402. Tric: £340.
4.45: 1. POSH SPICE (J R Kasanagh)
0-1; 2. Heart 3-1; 3. Marylo 8-1 10 ms.
3-4 fav Thema Arena. 12, 114. (N Henderson, Lambourd, Totac £2740; £570; £120,
2240. DP: £2250. CSP: \$4037. Tricest:
2240. DP: £2250. CSP: \$4037. Tricest:
2243.35 Tric: £2250.

Jackpot: Not worr; \$5,48116 carried forward Placemot: \$1130 Quadoot: \$380

SOUTHWELL

1.30: 1. LIVE PROJECT (Mass Nocie Creg-cs) 4-1 | far; 2. Forest Robin 9-2: 3. Don't Drop Bomiss 7-1 11 ran. 4-1 | fast Kingchip Boy. 21s. 3. (R. Cregos, Sadgefeld), Tote: 8.40; £130, £180, £200. DF: £1590. CSF: £1947. Tricest: £11297. Tric: £2780. 2.00: 1. KLERANIS BRIDGE (A McCerthy) 5-1; 2. Aldwych Arrow 8-11 far; 3. Aventum Star 19-1. 7 ran. Shi-hd, 15. (A Jarvis, Did-Coli, Toler: 2830; 2230, 2110. DF: 2270. CSF: 2836.

2.50: 1. KILLARINEY JAZZ (T Lucas) 9-2: 2. Stump Montony 5-1; 3. Malozza 7-1 8 mm. 7-4 fav Heathyards Shelt. 1½, 3. U Whar-fon), Tolic 2300; 200, 5320, 5280 OF: CBIO. CSF: £2740. Trio: \$4640.

GS: 22(AU, INC): \$46.40.
3.00: 1. MOONRAKING (A Cultere)
10-1; 2. Swift 7-1; 3. Antonian Melody 4-1
8 ran. 2-1 fav Beisman 2, 3½, (T Ethering-ton), Toke 5700; 5200 C 10, 5130 DF: 52380.
CSF: \$7181. Tricast: \$30198. SS: 2718. INCREDITION (Mes S Newby-Vin-cent) 8-1; 2. Time of Night 2-1 fax; 3. Rock Internal Line 7-1 10 ran. 91-hd, 21/s, (Mrs L Shubbat, Poter (200), 2330, 2130, 2270, DF: 2980, CSF; 22391, Tricest, 21655, Tito: 2900.

\$1990, CSF; 22391, Tricset, \$16555. Tric; \$200.
4.00; 1, ELTON LEDGER; IP McCabe) 5-2
tar; 2, Imp Express 7:-1; 3, Marrino Street
10-1, 11 ran, 25; 11/4, (Max N Mccakey); Tote;
64,20; 5190, 5540, 5350, DF; \$2850, CSF;
5339, Tricset; 620512, Tric; 19400,
4.35; 1, SOAKED (A. Calinano); 6-1; 2,
Flociace 6-1; 3, Assessome Venture 14-1, 10
ran, 2-1 tax Astral Invader (4th), 11/4, 31/4, 10
Chacmen), Tote; 6340; 6200, \$130, \$170,
DF; \$1560, CSF; \$4312, Tricset; \$447,84, Tric;
52550.

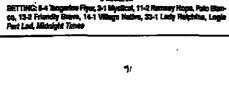
\$2550.

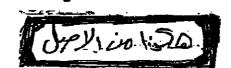
5.05: 1. KATHE'S CRACKER (F Norton)
20-1; 2. Spark Of Love 7-4; 3. Cellis Comfort 12-1. 5 ran. 6-4 few Merade learns; sen),
4. 2/s. (M Quinn). Tota: \$550; £320, £450.
DF: £15.40. CSF: £507.R.
Placep C: \$400. Quadpot: £1040.
Place 6: £8155. Place 5: £3448.

●ADRIAN MAGUIRE yesterday delayed his comeback by 24 hours. But the jump jockey declared himself "fine" after Saturday's fall on Amtrak Express at Kempton which caused him to be stood down for two days. "I am not going to ride to-morrow but that's because there is not much for me to ride," Maguire said. "I am fine, there are no problems and I will be back on Wednesday."

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Υ,.





Ronaldo holds the key as Inter launch revenge mission

RONALDO holds the key to Brazilian will up the balance this than last year. "He [Ronaldo] Aron Winter, Diego Simeone choice alongside the Brazilian Italians have won 10 consecutonight's Uefa Cup quarter-fi- time. nal first-leg tie between Internazionale and Schalke 04, the unpretentious German club who beat the Italians in last year's final.

Schalke won 4-1 on a penalty shoot-out last year after the two-leg final had finished 1-1 on aggregate. Now, though, Interhave Ronaldo - and his teammate, the Chilean striker Ivan Zamorano who scored against Schalke in Inter's second leg 1-0 win last season, believes the

"We still feel bad about last year's final and this is the perfect occasion to exact revenge by climinating them." he said. "This year, too, we have an extra weapon in Ronaldo and his pace is sure to cause problems for the German defenders who are big and strong but possibly

Zamorano's view is echoed by Schalke's experienced Dutch defender Johan de Kock, who agrees that Inter are stronger

is dangerous, fast and unpredictable. You never know what he is going to do next. The safest sure that he does not get the

Inter will be without three players - the suspended sweeper Giuseppe Bergomi as well as the Portuguese midfielder Paulo Sousa and the defender Mauro Milanese, who are both cup-tied. The Brazilian Ze Elias is favoured to take Paulo Sousa's place in midfield alongside

and Francesco Moriero. In defence, Salvatore Fresi returns in the sweeper role in place of way to handle him is to make Bergomi, while Francesco Colonesse replaces Milanese. Schalke will be without the Dutch midfielder Marco van Hoopdalem, who has an

> Achilles injury. The Inter coach, Gigi Simoni, has one major selection doubt, over Ronaldo's partner in attack. For much of this season, the Frenchman Youri

-but he is under pressure from tive league, Uefa Cup and Italboth Zamorano and Nigeria's Nwankwo Kanu.

For Saturday's 2-0 Serie A win over Napoli, Djorkaeff was first leg against the French side. dropped in favour of Kanu-but it was Zamorano who opened the scoring with a spectacular back-heeled goal after coming and the Czech Pavel Nedwed on as a substitute for the Niger-

Auxerre tonight try to do what no club has achieved since mid-December - beat Lazio at Franck Silvestre and the mid-Djorkaeff has been the first Rome's Olympic Stadium. The fielder Christian Henna, both is normally a reserve, but after Ajax coach, said.

ian Cup games at the venue and naturally hope to extend that in their Uefa Cup quarter-final

Lazio will be at full strength with the Croat Alen Boksic and Roberto Mancini in attack alongside Yugoslavia's Vladimir Jugovic in midfield.

Auxerre will be weakened by the absence of their captain

Ajax face Spartak Moscow at

home in the other quarter-final. The Dutch side will be without their Finnish striker and playmaker Jari Litmanen, who has been troubled by a calf strain since late autumn. There are also slight doubts over Ronald de Boer, Dean Gorre and Michael Laudrup, although all should play.

Ajax may include Benedict McCarthy. The South African

injured. Laurent Ciechelski is scoring seven goals and picking up the best player award at the African Nations' Cup he may feature tonight.

odwar club v c

Spartak have a powerful midfield containing the internationals Andrei Tikhonov, the Russian player of the year in 1996, and the diminutive Dimitri Alenichev, who won the award overwhelmingly last year.

"Spartak play beautiful football, a bit like the way Ajas do. and we need two good days to beat them," Morten Olsen, the

Tigana in search of a vintage year at Monaco

The coach of Manchester United's next opponents tells Dominique Baldy why he refuses to live in the past

IT SEEMS, of late, to have for extra training as evidence of the superior dedication that team. It's as simple as that." enables the great player to stand out from the rest.

However, the last man working out on Monaco's idyllic training ground, set high among the cliffs of the Côte d'Azure, yesterday will not be coming face to face with Beckham and company at the Stade Louis II tomorrow, at least not directly.

The figure still working up a sweat as the first of the players' high-performance cars begin to negotiate the descent back towards Monte Carlo is the Monaco coach and former French midfield legend Jean Tigana, the man Alex Ferguson must outwit if Manchester United are to reach the semi-finals

of the European Cup. "I train daily," Tigana said, If an and must exhibit the same professionalism that he expects from his players."

This certainly seems to confirm the popular perception of Tigana as a man noted on setting the highest standards, both for himself and others. As a player, his skills and fiercely competitive spirit earned him 52 caps during France's golden era in the 1980s, playing alongside Michel

Platini and Alain Giresse. Twice a World Cup semifinalist, winning a European Championship in 1984, and five the two Caillols boys might domestic titles while playing for Bordeaux and Marseilles, rarefied atmosphere of the Tigana has transferred his success to the coaching arena, where his team are in pursuit of a unique treble. There has even been talk that he may take over as coach of Barcelona next season, or perhaps take charge of the national side

when Aimé Jacquet steps down. Watching Tigana putting his multi-talented squad through their paces earlier, the impression was that he is respected first and loved second. With the options open to him, Tigana has to put the occasional nose out of joint, the latest being Victor Ikpeba, who discovered that being African Footballer of the Year was no assurance against a spell on the bench, lkpeba learned his lesson and scored

become the vogue to cite a foot- man," Monaco's Scottish midballer's willingness to stay fielder, John Collins, said. "He behind after his team-mates knows what he wants, and if he doesn't get it, you're not in the

When it comes to Manchester United and Ferguson, Tigana offers little more than the respect he automatically considers due to fellow combatants also pursuing success on a number of different fronts.

"We respect Manchester United, but with no inferiority complex." Tigana says. "I was delighted with the draw because both games should be superb football occasions. I've never met Ferguson, but his ability not just to achieve success but to then be able to repeat it is a quality that I admire in anybody.

"I've had them watched, naturally, but there are so many good players there that I couldn't really pick anybody out." None the less, there is a Unit-

as I believe a couch cannot let ed old boy on whom Tigana is hold forth, for he and Eric Cantona go way back, to their formative years in Marseilles.

"Yes, I've known Eric since he was a little boy. As well as being from the same district he was at school with my little brother, and we were both discovered playing for the local club, Caillols. In later years we played together at Bordeaux and Marseilles."

Had Cantona delayed his retirement by another season, have met up again in the more Champions' Cup, but Tigana feels it was disappointment of unfulfilled international ambition that was the main reason for Cantona's retirement.

"I think he would have stayed on if he was involved in the World Cup, but when that door was closed he decided enough was enough. I spoke to him after he retired and said it was a shame he stopped, but he's made a life choice and you have to respect that. We've always had a good relationship, and I would never presume to try to talk him out

of his decision." Neither has Tigana been tempted to get his old friend to which the French refusal to reveal any deficiencies in Monaco's forthcoming opponents. "We are in touch regularly, but Germans to claw their way



Monaco, and if my own eyes can't tell me what I need to know, what am I here for?"

In a World Cup year, any meeting with Tigana readily invokes memories of the French exploits of the 1980s, an era when it seemed the hopes of Les Bleus rock of efficient Teutonic values

That was most famously

In any case, I'm the coach of that analysis overstates the case. Platini, Giresse and Fernandez Any time off from football, I go was no option, as we had lost Genghini and Battiston during the game, and unfortunately we

so our rhythm was hampered. It was our subsequent disorganiinvariably foundered on the sation after the enforced substitutions that caused our defeat embodied by West Germany.

epitomised in the epic 1982 World Cup semi-final in Seville. remembered as the game in shut up shop, despite leading 3-1 in extra-time, enabled the West

"It's true that we continued for a chat, but I have too much to attack. But at the time there going on at the moment to get only had defenders on the bench,

rather than excessive attacking." Tigana's responses to questions about the events of the last decade are polite but unimpassioned, suggesting any ghosts from that period were

exorcised long ago. "It's true, I don't live with the past. I've turned the page, and both goals in Saturday's 2-0 it would never occur to me to back, and eventually triumph on what interests me is the future. French Cup win over Marscilles. embarrass him by asking that, penalties. Tigana believes Once in a while, I meet up with er. Now I never take holidays.

too nostalgic about those days.

"At the moment we have the Champions' Cup to worry about, and that really eats you up, emotionally and physically, and we're also aiming for the French league and cup double,

which is quite exceptional." Away from football, Tigana's eight years at Bordeaux started him down the unlikely road of a second, inevitably successful, career in the wine trade.

"For a couple of years when I retired as a player, that was all I did. But I missed football, and the pressure, and winning, so I returned to become a managback and work on the land." Tomorrow's game will be one of the rare occasions when

United confront a side with a

manager as driven as their own. And in the unlikely event that added attraction. The Villa manthey should be tempted to underestimate Monaco, they need only recall the fate suffered here last season by Newcastle United, who were dispatched from the Uefa Cup with the same ruthlessness the croupiers in Monte Carlo's casino reserve

Harrison joins the Villa revolution

A familiar face will be on the Aston Villa bench in Madrid tonight. Phil Shaw reports.

JOHN GREGORY has been them: 'It doesn't get any better manager of Aston Villa for than this'." barely a week and already he is talking about leaving. Contemplating tonight's Uefa Cup quarter final, first-leg match against Atletico Madrid, Brian Little's successor quipped: "If we win this one, I'll resign. Ouit while I'm ahead."

Far from thinking negatively, Gregory enhanced the upyesterday by confirming the appointment of Steve Harrison as first-team coach. Harrison, a self-confessed prankster and role for seven months during Graham Taylor's reign.

Since leaving to take charge of Watford in January, 1988, Harrison has, in his own words, "done more miles than Michael Palin". After an unsatisfying sojourn at Vicarage Road, he went on to coach at Millwall and, fatefully, alongside Taylor with England.

Revelations about his lavatorial party piece cost Harrison both jobs in 1991, yet he reemerged with Crystal Palace for at Wolves. More recently, he has been coaching Preston. After last week's reserve fixture be- goal per game. tween Villa and the Lancashire opportunity to come full circle.

Having expected to be involved in a Second Division match against Luton tonight, Harrison found himself preparing Villa to face the side who trail only Real Madrid and Barcelona in the Spanish League.

For all the seriousness of the task, he guaranteed that he would approach it in good heart. "Tve always thought players worked better with a smile on their face. If you know how to make them laugh, you've got a chance of getting the best out of them."

Harrison has, however, assured Gregory that he has put his old trick behind him, as it were. "It was a long time ago and Tve served my time," he said.

Gregory admitted that the rapport Harrison enjoyed at Palace with Gareth Southgate and Stan Collymore was an ager clearly recognises Southgate's influence in the dressing room as well as sensing a chance to coax the best from the £7m

enigma he inherited. On Saturday, Collymore gave his most committed display of the season, scoring twice in for gamblers who push their luck the defeat of Liverpool and enabling his new boss to savour the Were Monaco to repeat that end of a hectic week. Gregory feat this time round, the omens said: "When I got home I sat would appear to be good for down with my wife and children Chateau Tigana 1988 to become and we had a Chinese take-away on the kitchen table. I told

He will be delighted to be proved wrong in the Vicente Calderon Stadium. The events of the past seven days mean that the time he would normally have spent assessing Leicester's first-round conquerors has, of necessity, been condensed.

"I'm aware of Atletico's strengths and weaknesses," Grebeat mood of the Villa party gory said. "Peter Withe [chief scout has watched them twice and I've had half an hour with him. We've also got videos and dossiers, but I don't want to get impressionist, thus returns to weighed down with all that stuff. the club he served in the same. The most important thing is that we are properly organised."

Gregory added that he was tempted to retain the team who beat Liverpool, though the experienced Steve Staunton and Mark Draper are fit to return. Atletico, who came from 2-0 down to hold Espanyol on Saturday despite being reduced to 10 men, are without the suspended Radek Bejbl as well as

the broken-leg victim Juninho. Coached by the former Luton player, Raddy Antic, they will look to Christian Vieri, and was later reunited with Tay- their £12.5m striker from Juventus, to maintain the form that has brought him almost a

Given the reputation of firing managers, few would have backed Antic to outlast Little this season. In fact, the Yugoslav is now in his third full campaign. His reputation has spread sufficiently for him to attract a respectable number of votes when Birmingham's evening paper asked readers to choose from 10 candidates for the Villa hot-seat (they did not, incidentally, include Gregory).

Gil and the Villa chairman. Doug Ellis, were reportedly dining together last night, perhaps waxing nostalgic about some of the aggregate of 43 managerial changes over which they have presided. The toast may well have been Ron Atkinson, who both men famously sacked. Gregory, meanwhile, was looking to the Atkinson era for inspiration, citing Villa's victory over internazionale as an example to

which his team should aspire. Vilia would arguably settle for the 2-1 defeat which Leicester suffered here, especially with the potentially precious away goal. Gregory conceded that it would take a brave performance to achieve an even better result, but believed that his new charges had "courage in abundance". Tonight they will need to show him that they also have class.

Atletico Madrid (probable: 4-4-2): Moline:
Aguilera, Santi, Andrel, Torri, Garminero, Viz-caino, Paunowo, Pentic; Kiko, Vieri.

Ferguson set to call on United's artisan aspect

reports from Monte Carlo THOSE Manchester United players who had a fine view of the

Nice yesterday may have con-

sidered a few footballing clichés about mountains and peaks. The English champions' now perennial quest for the club game's highest honour begins meet Monaco in the European Cup quarter-final first-leg. United are confident, but wary. As Gianluca Vialli, a European champion with Juventus, noted

United have not been scaling the peaks recently but they have been gradually rediscov-Alps as the team flew south to cring the form of autumn. Saturday showed their artisan side, an aspect which may need to be to the fore again tomorrow.

"I hope Saturday was a barometer to Wednesday night," said the manager, Alex anew here tomorrow when they Ferguson, yesterday, "We had to Vialli and [Gianfranco] Zola, It was a guide to what we will face

United's only concern - with after their weekend victory over the injured Ryan Giggs defi- Trezeguet, the 20-year-old strik- fight. his Chelsea team: "You can play nitely out - is Gary Pallister, ing prospect who made his

bad performance and the Cup ford Bridge before departing is gone." ford Bridge before departing with a back injury. "He had treatment on Sunday and again this morning," said Ferguson, "but we will not be taking any risks." With Monaco possessing exceptional pace in attack, notably in Thierry Henry and Victor Ikpeba, Ferguson is likely to

turn instead to Henning Berg. Ikpeba scored twice in extratime as Monaco, third in the Yet that competition is no more Monaco coach, than the Eng-

defender Franck Dumas and is smaller than the burger vans Scotland's John Collins were on Sir Matt Busby Way. If it rested and the Algerian mid- were not for the regal Grimalfielder Ali Benarbia and Hen- di family's subsidy the club ry put on the bench. All are would be little bigger than expected to be fit tomorrow.

United's supporters began arriving yesterday, accompanied by one of the Football Association's security officials. The club have sold 2,200 tickets and a similar number of tick-French league, beat Marseilles etless fans are expected to defend against clever players like 2-0 in the cup at the weekend. travel. Trouble, apart from isolated drink-fuelled idiocy, is of a priority to Jean Tigana, the not expected, partly through the maker Fred Done is paying out high drink prices, and partly now to punters who backed lish one was to Ferguson. David because there is no one here to

Monaco's average gate is the Within hours, £15,000 had the cup's committee. So des-may also be wondering how he well for eight months but one who lasted 27 minutes at Stam- France debut in January, about 5,000 and their club shop been snapped up.

Emley As it is, they are meet-

ing United on equal terms. United are staying across the border near Nice but, when they cross into the principality for training at the Stade Louis Il tonight, they should feel at home. This is a millionaire's playground after all.

● The Manchester-based book-United to win the Premiership. irrespective of who wins the ti-

THE SPECTRE of the Nation- Italian and Spanish participa- erence for him to work under wide League may be hanging over Crystal Palace's attempt to secure the services of Terry Venables but, even if the Premiership's bottom club are rel-

Crystal Palace have become the first English team to express a desire to compete in the much-maligned Intertoto Cup for three years and Uefa yesterday confirmed that, although non-Premiership clubs would not "normally" be allowed to enter, Palace's case would be

get the nod. Venables, who yesterday

European lure for Venables

asked for a week to think over egated, they may still be able to prospective chairman Mark Goldberg's offer of a lucrative dangle the lure of European five-year contract, could thus spend the weekend of 18/19 July, while most teams are on the beach, overseeing Palace's European debut.

Venables spent two hours with Goldberg yesterday and was offered bonuses and share options. His delay in making a decision may be a ploy to flush given special consideration by out other possibilities, but he perate is Uefa to have English, will settle into Goldberg's pref-

tion in the competition that a director of football appoint-Palace would almost certainly ed by Juventus, who will have an advisory role at the club. Where this leaves Steve Coppell, the current manager, is anybody's guess.

So, too, is Palace's Intertoto team. Uefa has stipulated that, while allowing for World Cup commitments, it must be akin to "a normal team".

In 1995, when Wimbledon, Tottenham and Sheffield Wednesday were cocreed into competing, they fielded teams largely made up of reserves and borrowed players, and played "home" games at oth-

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PANY hoping to start s first commercial gold il resume exploratory with all a secret heating incurred vesterday tur-metre deep holes unk by Credition Minthe mid Devon counif Pit-metre intervals re original borchole ast August.

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and chemical follow up old occurrence in the à bole, Creditou is satat it is fully justified on ng the exploration to the presence of gold wider area," said a ian for the company. : the drilling goes on. physica was will be unt at a number of oththe exploration because

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WATKINS

ON RUGBY

The Leagues have brought out all the rugby talent in England ONE OF the characteristics of achievement. The chief credit, expressed English nationalism a puff of smoke. England success and Leicester, now joined by provided Clive Woodward, the have displayed it, I suppose, as should go to Geoff Cooke. He the surface. devoted hardly any attention to wanted his side to be attractive

arresting phenomenon. generally winning. They have

much as anyone - is that it is has . did not produce attractive mgby concentrated on the decline of and not particularly want to but Wales, Scotland and Ireland, he did produce winning rugby, especially Wales, but has His successor, Jack Rowell,

the rise of England. And yet it to watch - at least, this is what is the latter which is the more he said - but he did not usually succeed. Yet he too kept on win-France were always there or ning. The English record in thereabouts, contesting the the 1990s has been remarkable. champions of the Northern Grand Slams in 1991, 1992 and Hemisphere with Wales and, in 1995 and the Championship recent years at any rate, (including the Triple Crown) in

It is, when you come to Brighish rugby with the reign of 1990-91 season she was gone, through the high standards less than the some of its parts. to have established himself in think about it, an extraordinary Margaret Thatcher. A crudely phut, in a shower of sparks and attained by clicks such as Bath These clubs have certainly the middle.

usually chauvinist and largely ignorant crowd who go to the new Twickenham, they were no disposition to gloat, after the demolition of Wales 10 days ago. Perhaps they were as shocked, though in a different way, as my fellow countrymen were.

However, to be fair to the the tricks that memory can play.

The simple explanation is that the Leagues have brought out all the rugby talent in Engremarkably restrained, showing land, even though, with pro- continues to elude me. It was a Austin Healey, even though fessionalism, the leading clubs great bore which the papers, and rely increasingly on non-English players. In this process several

recent rugby commentary - I at international level anyway, came bubbling menacingly to was achieved under a greyer Newcastle and Saracens. In England coach, with a luxury of regime; which only goes to show Wales, only Cardiff can rival choice, despite the presence of

> revive and even strengthen the old divisional championship up to a point, television covered because they thought it was exmyths have been laid to rest: pected of them, not because any such as that there were vast re- one was particularly interested.

numerous foreigners. No one Why Fran Cotton wants to could object if he gave a first cap to the young Richmond wing Dominic Chapman, in place of Healey scored a try against

Even a rugby-following Solomon would find it difficult to choose between Kyran But Mrs Thatcher, as she serves of rugby talent in Corn- The participants were not Bracken and Matt Dawson at then was, ruled in the 1980s. In wall and in the extreme north, greatly enthused either. It was accum half. There are two Lions that decade England won the untapped because of the blind-notorious that players from standard No 8s, Tony Diprose generally winning. They have 1996.

Championship only once, at the metropolitan snother position. It is England who have destroyed the old balance.

It is, when you come to Fibilish metropolitan street.

Kevin Bowring, at the time of writing still the Welsh coach - as I hope he remains - must wish he had such a large tank into which to dip his net. The sad truth is that, except for a few small adjustments (for example, Colin Charvis moving to No 7 instead of playing at No 6), the side he took to Twickenham won the approval of most Welsh fans.

Neil Jenkins has now said, as he is fully entitled to, that he does not wish to continue at fullback. I hope Jenkins is restored to outside-half with the function of releasing Allan Bateman and Scott Gibbs - and continuing to kick those goals which, even in these high-scoring days. can still turn a match.

Woodward embroiled in club v country spat

Rugby Union

By Chris Hewett

already established himself as a bold and adventurous selector in capping seven new players in the space of six England international matches. You ain't seen nothing yet, though. Thanks to the latest political spat between club and country - a deadly serious confrontation that has all the makings of a fight to the finish - the coach may have to send an entire team of anonymous journeymen and pre-pubescent unknowns into the firing line against Australia in Brisbane this summer.

Two of England's top five Premiership outfits, Northampton and Saracens, mounted their high horses yesterday and politely informed Woodward, Fran Cotton and the rest of the Rugby Football Union top brass that dialogue, but the last time I they considered the forthcoming aired my views about the future and South Africa to be a trip too solicitor's letter on my doormat. far for their knackered players. By the same yardstick, Franand, therefore, would not be releasing them.

polite. The guy who pays the piper calls the tune," snapped Keith Barwell, the Northampton owner. "We owners put £35m into the game last season and while Fran thinks he can tell us what to do, he'll shortly find out that he can't. The public are sick and tired of all this niggle behind the scenes. Like in any game of rugby, we need a bloody good punch-up to sort it out."

Barwell's stance attracted unconditional support from the

and their words were all the more resonant for the fact that both men had long been consid-CLIVE WOODWARD has ered "dover" in the prolonged argy-bargy between the clubs

> Woodward tried his level best to retain his cool - indeed, he dummied and sidestepped his way across the diplomatic quicksand in the finest traditions of a Lions centre - but he was clearly flabbergasted by the Barwell initiative. "England are definitely travelling south this summer and 36 players will be going," he reiterated. "Im just glad the clubs didn't make these comments last year because if they had, there wouldn't have been a Lions tour.

"We have to sit down and talk this through, obviously, but every time someone voices an opinion, all hell breaks loose. I believe in me in bublic. I found a invited all 24 Premiership clubs to come to Twickenham a week Actually, they were not even or so ago and discuss his ideas on the future, but they declined. What's happening here?"

Both Northampton and Saracens claim to have signed their players on contracts containing an international release clause and that those contracts have primacy over any deal struck tween the Test contingent and the RFU. According to Mike Smith, the Saracens chief executive, the RFU contracts are legally unsound anyway. "The players were forced to sign them

telling them that if they didn't put pen to paper, they wouldn't be chosen for England," he alleged. If the two Tetley's Bitter Cup

semi-finalists stick to their guns, Woodward will cross the equator without the likes of Rodber, Dawson, Grayson, Grewcock, Hill, Diprose and Bracken. Given that other key England personnel are feeling the effects of almost two years of constant top-level rugby - Martin Johnson, the Leicester lock, and Jason Leonard, the Harlequins prop, are prime examples more clubs could follow suit, provided they are as contractually watertight as the two instigators. However, the Premiership

clan is in serious danger of causing a damaging split in its own ranks. Despite protestations to the contrary, not all clubs smoported the tactically naive decision to boycott next season's Heineken Cup. Similarly, there if selected," he admitted. is no across-the-board consensus on the the conduction of the c

venting their gersonnel playing mternational rogby. That position was reinforced by Lawrence Dallaglio, the Wasps and England captain. Dallaglio would probably appreciate a rest this simmer - indeed, the last thing he needs with a World Cup on the horizon is to be kicked around New Zealand - but he said vesterday: "It's for the player himself to decide whether or not

because they received a letter anyone making that decision on my behalf, because it's a fantastic honour achieved through an individual's own endeavour and bard work.

"Like the other members of the squad, I entered into an agreement with the RFU on the understanding that the clubs were happy with it and that agreement says in black and white that we're available to tour. Therefore, I'm contractually bound to do so. If Clive thinks England would be better served by my staying at home this summer, it's something for us to discuss. But it would be pretty sad for any player to be told he couldn't fulfil his ambitions."

Intriguingly, Dallaglio's views were mirrored by Tim Rodber, the Northampton captain. "I'm not sure if Keith has she these things as a means of the ting the issue, but I must say that I would like to go on tour this summer Oh, by the way. Northamptor

and Saracens will face each other in the first of his season's let, ley's little Cup semi-imals on 28 March, with Wasps taking on Sale that they would not dream of pre- in the second tie later that same afternoon. Just thought you'd like to know.

ENGLAND SCHAD (for training session at Bisham Abbey on Wedneschirt Histor); Bucks: M Perry (Beth), I-Bishibito (Beth), M Catt (Bath), D Ree (Said), A History, Lexice: te), W Greenwood (Lekoste), J. Gamoti (Bath), P de Gheyffle (Bath), P Grayson (Northampton), J Wittmenn (Neucastie), K. Bracisen (Sascone), M Dewson (Northampton), B Besten (Ginzeste), Forwards: J Leoust (Integrand, P Victory (Ginzeste), D Gerforth (Lekoster), M Worsley (Bristo), D Barmes (Neucastie), G Roeutres (Lekoster), R Cockeril (Lekoster), D West (Lekoster) D Barries (Neucasie), G Rosentres (Laice-ter), R Cockerill (Laicester), D West (Laices-ter), A Long (Bath), G Chester (Serscere), & Archer (Neucasie), M Johnson (Laicester), D Grancock (Serscere), L Dellegilo (Vitapa), R Hill (Saracord, T Rodber (Northempton), A Digrass (Saracers), N Back (Laicester), L Moody (Laicester). he plays for his country if invited to do so. Certainly, I don't want



Tiger Woods shows his despair after missing a 15-foot putt on the 18th hole at the Valencia Country Club, California. The error, on the first play-off hole, handed victory in the Nissan Open to Billy Mayfair, who won his first Tour event since 1995 on Sunday. Woods, last eason's PGA golfer of the year, has yet to win a tournament in 1998 Photograph: Reuters

Rugby Union

Tennis

Silk Cut caught in red tape

Sailing

By Stuart Alexander

THERE are worried frowns on the faces of Lawrie Smith's shore crew as they wait in Brazil for the arrival of Silk Cut and the new mast to replace the one which broke in two in the southern ocean on the fifth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race. Silk Cut, already retired from

the 6,670 mile leg, was due to limp into port last night. However, major efforts are having to be made to ensure that Brazilian customs work quickly enough to release the mast, which should be shipped by barge from Santos, arriving in São Sebastião on Friday or Saturday. The British crew were not encouraged when Swedish Match had to buy a set of clothes because customs had refused to release their container in time.

The international jury, under the chairmanship of the Brazilian lawyer Peter Siemsen, is preparing to rule on the use. proper and improper, of engines.

A complaint has been lodged against Dennis Conner's Toshiba, sixth on the leg and afth overall, because skipper Paul Standbridge admitted that he had used his engine to turn the propeller in reverse to clear some seaweed. His defence will be that the engine was never used for forward propulsion and so did not aid the progress of the yacht.

The race committee will not penalise EF Education - still with 1,895 miles to go - who motored into Ushuaia at the tip of Argentina to fit a new mast.

Sporting Digest

Athletics

Paula Radcliffe, silver medalist in the 1997 World Cross-Country Champion-stips in Turin, will compete twice at this year's event in Marrakesh on 21 and 22 March. Short course races have been introduced in the chempionships and the Bedford ethlete asked Britains selectors for a place in both the 8k and 4km.

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(Auon Valley, Werwick) 21-15, D Vincent
(Teightedge) bit T Brosson (City of SundeLend) 21-3, E West (Crystal Felics) bit S Cutis (Co Arts, Norwich) 21-20, 9 Bioprifield

(I/ve Green, Harlow) bt M Coles (pswich) 21-20, G Harney (Spelding, Lincay bt D Grey (Surrior) 21-9. Triples, sent-finalis: Surton Surrey (J Newell, J Wheatley and A Brisath; bt Mole Park Kent (A Hill, S Hazel and D Sek-

Cricket

SECOND TEST (Durbec): Pakisten bt South Africa by 29 runs. Final day: South Africa won 1985 ram ug; ocus rama won soss PAKISTAN — First Innings 239 (Azher Mah-mood 132, A A Donald 5-78). SOUTH AFRICA — First Insings 231 (S M Policek 700, H D Acterman 57, Shoeb Alchar 5-43).

SOUTH AFRICA - Second Innings SUULIT AFRICA - Second Innis (Overright: 136 for 8) HM V Boucher b Wager Youris... P 5 de Villers not out... A A Donald itw b Wager Youris... Extras (15th, 3rb)... Sotal (88.2 overs)...

Bowling: Weger Young 17.2-2-60-3; Fazi-e-Alder 5-2-15-1; Shoeth Alder 11-0-20-0; Mushan Ahmed 37-13-75-6; Azher Meh-mood 11-4-12-0; Asher Sohet 7-1-24-0. PRODUCTI-4-12-U; ABINE SORES (*1-28-U. Unspirest D.L. Orchard and M.J. Kitchen. TOUR MATCH (Visethepatram, India): Second day of threst: President's XI 329 for 4 dec; Australia 269 for 1 (M. Stater 149no).

AROUND THE RESORTS

Reasonable at all elevations

Football

Notis County have signed the 32-year-old utility player Alex Dyer on a free transfer from Huddersfield Town. NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE: RE-ARRANGED FIXTURES: FIN 24 APR- Port Vale v Middlesbrough from 25 Apr.), Sun 26 Apr. Nottingham Forest v Reading from 25 Apr. Tue 28 Apr. pewich v Sunderland from 17 Oct.

Equestrianism Equescriamism
WOIND WORLD CUP CHALIFIER (Bologus, R): 1 Radiator (R Tebbel, Ger) clear, 5857sec; 2 Virtual Village Heyrren (J Whitzler, GS) clear, 5395; 3 Nasen Calvero (J Lanaini, Neth) clear, 4650. Other GB: 6 Virtual Village Incotep (M Whitsler, 13 Virtual Village Incotep (M Whitsler) 4 Heuts, 11 1st punt Standings on Western European Langue of World Case 1 W Mediger (Swit) and E van der Visutian (Neth) Separ, 3 L Nebeng (Ger) 51, Beat GB: 4 G Billington 37; 15 R Smith 35. Golf

LOS ANGELES OPEN (finishnois, Cattional) Laciding final scores (US unibeas stell-ed): 272 B Mayfair-68, T Woods 65 (Abyrish 68, T Woods 65 (Abyrish 68, T Woods 65 (Abyrish 68, 278 J Daly 68, P Senseri 70, 277 J Gallagher 68, B Estes 71, S Hobel 71, T Armout 173, 278 – 9 Cheseman 68, S Verplank 68, J Hass 68, 279 N Sytton 72, S Kendal 73, 280, L Roberts 67, B Wastishn 68, K Triplett 66, F Runk 68, K Sutherland 70, 282 B Charin-LOS ANGELES OPEN (V

blee 69, F Lickliter 70, J Kelly 72, J Carter 72, 287 N Faido 71 (GB). 72. 297 N Faldo 71 (GE).

EUROPEAN (ORDER OF MERRIT (After the Duber Desert Classic): 1 E Es (SA) 2279320; 2 J M (Dizzabel (So) 2169,350; 3 T Blom (Den) 2008,350; 3 I Woodsman (Neil) 594,732; 5 S Alien (Aus) 298,440; 6 R Googen (RSA) 2277,788; 7 T Johnstowe (Zm) 257,250; 8 A Colles (Ger) 252,547; 9 L Westwood (Eng) 254,670; 10 D Frost (So) 252,015; 11 R Karlsson (Swe) 268,674; 12 P Belter (Eng) 59,935; 13 A Colles (Go) 254,748; 15 P Soland (Swe) 233,99; 16 P Price (Ma) 258,948; 17 I Garrido (So) 252,255; 18 P Ohisaley (Aus) 255,02; 19 G Chairners (Aus) 253,770; 20 B Langer (Ger) 230,918.

SULTAN AZLAN SHAH CUP (Ipoh, Matavi: Australis 2 New Zaaland 1.

Kästyung

SAFARI RALLY (Italrobi): Final leading placings: 1 R Burns (35) Misubishi Bir 5/min 34eec; 2 J Kanidunan (Fin) Ford \$10701; 3 A Veissen (Fin) Ford \$0726; 4 D Auriol (Fi) Fords 9:1200; 5 Herri Rovenera (Finalm) Seet 11:322. World Championship standings (after three rounds): 1 C Sainz (Sp.) Toyota 8; 2 Karldunen 16; 3 Burns 12; 4 T Meditem (Fin) Misubishi 10; 5 Vetaneh 4; 7 C McRee (38) Subaru 4 Manufachuren' 6; 685 Subaru 10; 5 Vetaneh 4; 7 C McRee (38) Subaru

Today's fixtures Football WIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE TVISION Charles v West Broomich (7.45) Haddenfield v Man City (7.46) Portemouth v Bury (7,45)..... Sheffield Utd v ipenich (7,45) Stockport v Reading (7,45) ...

Nycombe v York (7.45)
/HRD DVISHON
Dembridge Utd v Maccinsfield (7.45)
Chester v Leyton Orient
Colchester v Hochdale (7.45)
Defligion v Petarborough
Doncester v Hotts County (7.45)
Hardspool v Southerpe
Lincoln City v Sestesses (7.45)
Robberbarn v Brighton (7.45)
Robberbarn v Brighton (7.45)
Cospborough v Manafield

Gravesend & Northfaet v Degentern & Red-bridge (745). First Divisions Grayev Leyton Per-nert (746): Leadrenheed v Abingdon Town (746): Thema v Crydon (746). Second Divi-siont Benstead v Tibury, Bradinel v Northwood; Berstnee v Hossham (745): Tooling v Hunger-tord (745). Third Divisions Capton v Hernel Hempetead (749). Gasratian Insurance Cup-sent-final Brat leg: Sutron Und v St Aberst. UniBOMD LEAGUE Premier Division: Berb-ber Stript v Leigh RM. First Division: Berb-ter Complex Leigh RM. First Division: Belper v Worksop, Unifiliar First Division: Belper v Worksop, Unifiliar First Division: Cup secul-nel first leg: Testord v Bratical Plant Avenue. DR MARTENS LEAGUE Bibliand Division: DR MARTENS LEAGUE Michard Division: Brackley v Blaton (7/45); Granthari v Mester (7/45); Southern Division: Fisher Athletic v Fisel. (2-S) Southern Division: Fisher Athletic v Fiset.

NTERLINK EMPASSS MIDLAND ALLIANCE—
Kingh Norton v Stageniff; Rocester v Sirbai, Industrial Reveleds League Cop send-Baste final
lags Bernett v Blonatch; Sridgmont v Krypersley.

REMEDIA EASTERN LEAGUE Preside Division.

(2-S): Falsenham v Greet termoutly; Harvich SParisosion v Woodshader; Haton v Clackon; Sudbury Rown v Haistand.

Senson Wessels LEAGUE: Andover v Lyminton League Cop send-Baste final lag: Aerostrohass v Tradition; Windom's V Bernetton Heath.

MORTH WEST COUNTES LEAGUE: Final Division; Midgrove v Bustongh (7-S).

Pools news

Rallying

saturday 28th February: Hai SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY: Helf-times. Five access drawes (Sois): 1, 7, 30, 43, 48, 14, no access drawes: 6, 7, 9, 12, 20, 24, 25,52, 39, 55, 30, 40, 46, No cleims are required. Winnings are sont automatically. Dividend Forecast is Good. Fall-time. Eight score draws: (Spin): 18, 24, 30, 38, 43, 44, 46, 48. Three no

elen: Kickgrove v Burscough (745). NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Division: Husbard v Sciedhii; Osett Ewn v North Fertigy; Thackley v Glasshoughton. UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Pro mier Divinion: Mintees Blackstone v Spaiding. WheetTopil,EAD KENT LEAGUE Flyst Divinion WheetTopil,EAD KENT LEAGUE Flyst Divinion Dael v VCD Athletic, Powerstern v Cray Wander-less (TAS); Herne Bay v Folkeatone Invicta (TAS); Remagate v Carbridge (TAS); State Green v Green-stich Borough.

RISH LEAGUE COCA-COLA FLOODLIT CUP PONTUNS LEAGUE Premier Div Wadnesday v Auton Villa (70). PAINCE COMBINATION First Divi-Palace v Assural (20) for Plough Rugby Union

Henry Blofeld's West Indies

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Rugby Union

SCOTLAND TEAM (Five Nations' Championship v Wales, ? March, Wambley):

D. Lee (London Scottieh): T Stanger (ristrick & Scottish Borders), G Townsend (Northemplon), A Teit (Newcastle). S Longstaff (Dundse High School FP & Caledons); C Chaltenes: Melicos & Scottish Borders), G Armstrong (Newcastle Faicons captain): D Hilton (Resth), G Bullioch (Nest of Scotland & Glesgow), M Stawert (Northemplon), D Crovin (Waspa), D Wale (Newcastle Faicons), R Walewright (Dundse High School FP & Caledonia), A Rouburgh (Melicos & Scottish Borders), S Hollmas (London Scottish), Reptacements: R Shepherd (Melicos & Caledonia), C Murray (Havick & Scottish Borders), B Redpath (Melicos & Caledonia), C Gatham (Newcastle Faicons), D Elbs (Currie & Enhaugh).

Two of Australiels greatest players, Two of Australia's greatest players, Mark Bla and David Campese, will lead the country's sevens challenge at the Commonwealth Games in September. 6-2 ATP ADVANTA CHAMPIONSHIPS (PLSI-adelphia) Firet: P Sampas (LS.) bt T En-qvist (Swe) 7-5 7-8.

ROTTERHAM WORLD INDOOR TOURNA-MEMT (Rotterdam): J van Hende (Bel) bt J Novek (Cz. Piep) 8-78-3 7-8; M Tilkanom (Swe) bt McK Goellier (Gel) 6-1 6-3; S Brugusse (Sp) bt H Arazi (Mort 7-6 8-4; G Rutsedski (GB) bt K Alami (Mort) 6-7 7-8 7-8. CUIDE TO CHOOSING AND USING YOUR 4x4 VEHICLE Per area (ping, about brying a 4x4, Not, that is, until the rest purit separate Grade. Crown are consequent con

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GM VALIGHALL CONFERENCE Stough v Telford (7.45)..... Southport v Herstord (7.45)....

Other sports

Fourth Test: Captain's failure sparks early collapse as deadly Ambrose leads West Indies pace attack in pursuit of quick victory

England's failings exposed again

Derek Pringle reports from Georgetown

West Indies 352 & 197 England 170 & 90-6

MICHAEL ATHERTON will be feeling the pressure after another failure with the bat has virtually consigned his team to defeat in this Fourth Test. As England captain. Atherton has team over the last four days. But if their performance has alternated between the abject and the stoic, the England captain's has remained in the doldrums. and he has now gone 15 Test innings without a half-century.

The West Indies is not a place for a captain to be out of form with the bat, especially when rumours of a certain fast bowling duo's decline seems to be about as reliable as the local witchdoctor's rain dance, which, after five months of drought, has not been something to put your

There is no doubt in the past that the West Indies fast bowlers have deliberately targeted the opposition's captain. This time, however, with Atherton out of sorts, and the pitches on the fruity side of respectable, they have not had to resort to the intimidation of old.

Instead they have exploited Atherton's tendency to fall across his stumps - something he felt he had cured after his winter tuition with Graham Gooch - and his dismissal, in the second over after lunch was a case in point.

Mind you, the ball from Curtly Ambrose, which cut back sharply and kept fractionally low, would have tested anyone, irrespective of form, and Atherthere are few hiding places when second duck of the series.

(Overnight: 127 for 9) IR Bishop not out ...

Extras (b1, fb11, nb6) ...

ENGLAND - Second Inning

A J Stewart flow b Walsh

M A Butcher low b Hoope

Extras (b5. lb1. nb9)

N Hussain e Adams h Walst

M R Ramprakash c D Williams b Walsh †R C Russell not out

Fall: 1-6, 2-22, 3-22, 4-26, 5-58, 6-90,

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BOURDA SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND - First Innings 170 (M R Ramprakash 64 no).

Fall: 1-4, 2-32, 3-32, 4-75, 5-93, 6-123, 7-123, 8-127, 9-127

To bat: R D B Croft, D W Headley, A R C Fraser, P C R Tufnell.

Umpires: S A Bucknor and D 8 Hair TV replay umpire: P Montfort, Materials B N Lympur.

WEST INDIES - First Innings 352 (S Chanderpaul 118, B C Lare 93).

Ambrose and Courtney Walsh have a new ball in their hands. In fact, the lbw was a replica

of the one that got him at Trinidad four years ago when England collapsed in a heap to 46 all out. If there is a side that could prove that sporting history is cyclical and not linear, it is Needing to score 380 runs, the

third highest score in history to seen the best and worse of his win a Test match batting last, or to bat out 153 overs, 48 more than their longest innings of the series, the task facing England was about as difficult as an asthmatic trying to climbing Mt Everest without oxygen. Indeed. on this all but decomposed pitch. some would say it was probably futile and when Alec Stewart. Nasser Hussain, and Graham Thorpe went in the space of 21 halls to leave England reeling on 28 for 4, memories of that fateful day in Port-of-Spain would momentarily, at least, have come flooding back. Stewart, continuing his mar-

vellous form with a pair of boundaries off Ambrose, was yet another victim of the lbw mania sweeping this match. Missing a leg-side clip off Walsh, to which only the bowler appealed with any venom, Stewart was sent on his way by Steve Bucknor, a decision that was neither plumb nor farcical, but in that grey area in which the batsman tends to benefit.

Two balls later, there was no doubt at all as Hussain, caught between whether to duck or hook, fended the perfect throat ball from Walsh to short leg. Since his fine innings in the first of the two Trinidad Tests, Hussain has not featured and his reputation as an all or nothing man has begun to tilt more ton is perhaps unfortunate in that towards the latter with this, his

After Thorpe went, failing to control a flick off his hips and giving a catch to Dinanath Ramnarine at leg-gully, a period of calm ensued, helped in part by some careless catching and fielding from the home side. They twice dropped Mark Butcher while in single figures.

Mark Ramprakash, apart from a rush of blood involving a risky second run, looked as sound as he had done in the first innings, but Butcher's luck ran out in the first over after tea. After a testing few balls from Carl Hooper, bowling into a massive area of rough, the left-hander was fooled by an arm ball. More importantly, and presumably by some kind of optical illusion, it also appeared to persuade umpire Bucknor that it would have hit leg stump. When Ramprakash went, caught behind off Walsh, England were 90 for 6 and staring defeat inside four days.

Earlier, when play started, the portents had not been quite so gloomy. But if England bowlers were buoyant after their comeback on the third day, they approached the fourth as if they were staring at victory, not defeat. Like Lara the previous day, Atherton was obtuse in his choice of bowlers, opening with Croft and Tufnell, a tactic he stuck to for nine overs before calling on an obviously spent Fraser.

As Tufnell himself could have told his captain, there is nothing a No 11 likes better when required to bat than to face some gentle spin. Instead of putting Headley on and getting him to stick one up Ramnarine's nose, as Ambrose had done to Tufnell, he allowed the tailender to play himself in and help Bishop, who ended unbeaten on 44, to extend the West Indies lead to 379.

The net result, aided by some appalling catching - four chances of varying difficulty were put down - was a last-wicket partnership of 70 runs, a record for the West Indies against England. The previous best was an unbroken stand of 67. between Michael Holding and Colin Croft, both present here as commentators.

Theoretically, the ease with which Bishop and Ramnarine conducted their business ough to have been a source of comfort to England's batsmen. The trouble is when Ambrose and Walsh are making in-roads on a disintegrating pitch, theories tend to become rapidly evaluated - the thoughts of Mick Jagger, here no doubt to check the primary interface of his cricket website, every bit as pertinent on the subject as the views of Ge-

Mike Atherton walks off with just one run to his name after being tapped lbw by Curtly Ambrose Photograph: Allsport

Azhar the right moves

PAKISTAN completed a 29-run victory over South Africa in Durban yesterday on the fifth day of the second Test to take a 1-0 lead in the series, with the third Test starting in Port Elizaboth on Friday.

Resuming at 186 for 8 and needing 255 to win, Mark Boucher and Fanie de Villiers took their ninth-wicket stand to 86 before Boucher was bowled by Wagar Younis. The pair added 33 runs in seven overs, with Boucher scoring 52 in 128 minutes off 100 balls with seven

Although the second new ball was due at the start of play, Pakistan elected to continue with the leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed, who had wrecked the South African top order on Sunday. Two balls after Boucher reached his fifty, he was bowled when he missed a drive against a full-pitched delivery. Allan Donald was sent in but was trapped lbw in Waqar's next over.

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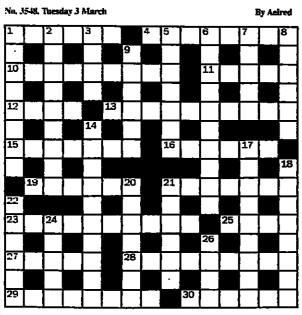
South Africa were all out for 225, with De Villiers having made 46 not out in 103 minutes off 67 balls with six fours.

Pakistan fully deserved their triumph, having bowled and fielded superbly while the South Africa selectors were left to rue their decision to go into the match without a spin bowler and to send Pakistan in to bat after winning the toss.

The pitch did not help the fast bowlers as much as the South Africans had hoped. The coach, Bob Woolmer, defended the decision to leave out the spinner Pat Symcox, who made a century batting at no 10 in the first Test in Johannesburg. "The bottom line is that our batsmen did not make enough runs," said Woolmer. Azhar Mahmood rescued

Pakistan from their precarious early position with a scintillating innings of 132, more than half his side's first-innings total of 259. The opener, Saced Anwar, made 118 in the second innings as the team reached 226 and Shoaib Akhtar produced a devastating spell of bowling in the first innings, taking 5 for 43, while Mushtaq Ahmed set up Pakistan's win in the final innings, taking six of the first eight wickets for 39 runs. Mushtag finished with figures of 6 for 78. Scoreboard, Digest, page 27

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



ACROSS Say "I'm so fabulous" showing this? (6)

Women are expecting to have help from them (8) 10 Those around hospital department will accept how old we are(9)
11 lev glide is disastrous (5)
12 Walk awkwardly, lacking

rigidity (4) 13 Join friend after Malaga outing (10) 15 Chart's wrong about Arabia and produces com-

16 Annual agreement on rail- 1 19 Milk producer with money hacking - thousands (6) One to get things moving

in the main (7)

one observes (10) 25 War Lord returned blood products (4) Change finish to accom-

modate writer (5) I will order need for change after having bad prognosis (3-6)

At college I apply punish-ment which is to make things less severe (8) After a time uses up stuff put on hair (6)

DOWN See very dark colour as a thing of beauty (8) Spectacular study? (9) Pest of odious lugubriousness (4) Fish with a friend without

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catches (7)

Swing with Georgia twice in Australian place (5,5) UK soccer team affected by disease in Virginia (5) Turf over animal's lair is very wet (6) Heat of battle is a fable not

14 N American marmot to follow to plain (7,3) 17 Perhaps send things to be tied up (5,4)
18 Spend time right in horsey

seat to do this? (8) 20 Mark's first one of canine experts (7) 21 Lets us down in struggle (6) 22 Note judge discharge bur-

den (6) Upright sort of tree found round Cuba (5) Order graduate to send up

Football

France to be returned to Fifa," finals to get more tickets."

warned the French organising committee (CFO) that it was monopolising most of the tickets, but the CFO said it was following guidelines agreed by the EU some two years ago.

Headley's yorkers and bouncers. In Ian Bishop, the West Indies have a No 8 who has two first-class hundreds to his name

Atherton pays for lacking a plan

tating and frustrating in cricket than having to field through a and is the best of the lower orlong last-wicket partnership. England came out on the fourth der batsmen on either side. His morning thinking the job was debutant partner, Ramnarine, done and all they had to do was showed that he is no mug either, to go through the motions until especially against spin. the last West Indian wicket fell. After their stirring perfor-

When the wicket did not fall in the first few overs, England managed to panic and to let their heads sink on to their chests at the same time. Atherton ran out of ideas, runs came at an alarming rate and the fielding was dreadful, with four chances being missed.

England lived from one ball to the next without any semblance of a plan. When Atherton decided that spin was not the

would not have fancied Dean answer - Bishop had forcibly reminded him of this by sweeping Robert Croft for two fours and on-driving Phil Tufnell out of the ground for six - he turned to Angus Fraser and not Headlev. His instinct was to rely on the golden arm of Fraser and not on the superior pace of Headley. When he eventually brought Headley on instead of Fraser, it was only for two overs, although he still managed to make life

uncomfortable for Ramnarine. For no good reason, he went back to spin and the two West Indians pushed the ball around as they wished. It was not until Headley was recalled that Ramnarine succumbed. By then the last pair had put on a record 70

and the West Indies had regained all the psychological advantage.

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Fifa asks France for tickets

that football is so popular."

SEPP BLATTER, the general secretary of the game's world governing body, Fifa, announced yesterday that be was hoping extra tickets - although he did not say how many - would be available to fans outside France for the World Cup finals.

THERE is nothing more irri-

mance in the field on Sunday,

it was perhaps difficult to blame

them for this. But Michael

Atherton should have asked

himself before the start what the

two Trinidadians would least like

to face. They most certainly

would not have said two spinners

for Trinidadians are reared on

a staple diet of spin. Dinanath

Ramnarine, in his first Test,

"We have asked France for the remaining tickets that were reserved for the retail market in he said. "That will allow the federations of the countries in the

The European Union had

A CFO spokesman said yes- fer Craig Brown a new four-year terday a meeting between the contract as the national team French organisers and EU ofmanager. His current deal exficials was scheduled for Thursnires after the World Cup. day in Brussels, but would not The SFA will now hold talks

elaborate on the agenda. with Brown to finalise the de-Last week, English and Scottails of a contract he is expecttish officials complained about ed to sign before World Cup preparations begin later this the ticket situation, and they month with a friendly against were joined by the Netherlands and Germany, but hopes then Denmark of a change in policy appeared Brian Little, who resigned as

manager of Aston Villa last Blatter played down reports week, will be offered a quick rethat the EU competition comturn to management by the millionaire trying to buy Burnley. missioner, Karel van Miert, was threatening fines because of He is the target for New the unfair allocation of tickets. York-based financier Ray In-"This remark is not to be taken gleby, who has bid £5m for a

seriously. The distribution of the controlling interest in the club. tickets has been blessed by the The board has turned down his EU. Of course, it is wonderful offer, but Ingleby has now asked individual shareholders to deal The Scottish Football Assowith him directly. ciation yesterday agreed to of-

Tigana's fine year, page 26